

The Source

ComEd
A Unicom Company

Vol. 3, No. 9

Changing Seasons

Hot tips for cooler temperatures.

Did you know that on average, the October temperature in Illinois drops from 66 at the beginning of the month to 45 by month's end? That means it's time to prepare your home for the cold.

Focus on the furnace

It's always important to have your furnace tuned up.

Typically a \$40 to \$80 investment, a tune-up goes a long way to improve furnace efficiency and longevity, plus it can reduce your heating bills by as much as 10 percent!

If your furnace is beyond a tune-up and needs replacing,

ComEd and Carrier have provided the attached coupon for six months of free financing.

Dodge drafts

- Inexpensive, easy-to-install weather stripping can eliminate drafts around doors and windows, keep your home warmer, and reduce your energy bills in the process.

- If your window air conditioner can't be removed, cover it for the winter months.

Interior and exterior

covers can pay for themselves in a season, and interior covers are reusable.

- Draft guards – long cloth tubes filled with sand – can be placed on window sills and at door bases where heat likes to escape.



"Our House" sponsors:

Sundays at "Our House"

TUNE IN and warm up this fall as Tom Tynan and Paula Engel provide more tips and tools for reducing energy costs at home.

"Our House" airs every Sunday on WBBM-Channel 2 at 11:30 a.m.

ComEd
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Carrier

Chicago Tribune

SNAPSCREEN

US 99
Chicago's HOT NEW Country

WBBM-TV
CHICAGO

Don't Be Conned

Customer safety is our biggest concern.

Sometimes con artists pose as utility employees to gain entry into customers' homes and steal from them.

Two common ploys are used to gain entry:

1. Someone posing as a ComEd employee shows up at your door with a large sum of cash (a \$100 bill), tells you that ComEd owes you a refund, but claims to need change.

2. Someone tells you they have to investigate a wiring problem inside your home that is causing trouble in the neighborhood.

Neither situation would happen with a real ComEd employee.

Safety checklist: What you should know

- ComEd never conducts

unsolicited wiring inspections, nor do we deliver cash refunds to customers.

When refunds are due, we issue a credit

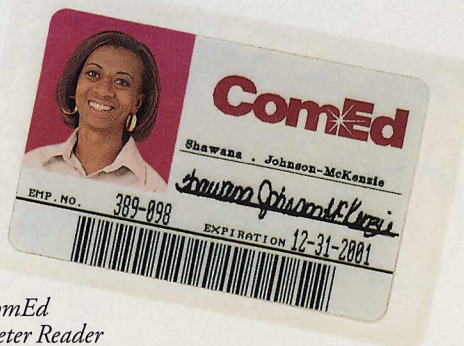
or mail a refund to the home.

- ComEd employees ALWAYS carry a picture ID and are happy to show it to you.

- ComEd meter readers typically wear dark gray trousers and a light gray shirt with the ComEd logo.

- When in doubt, call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) to verify the employee's ID.

- If you strongly suspect that the person at your door is not a ComEd employee, don't let them in and call the police.



*ComEd
Meter Reader
Shawana Johnson-McKenzie*

A Question From You

Dear ComEd:

All the fall home magazines and newspaper sections claim that caulking can lower energy bills. Is this really true?

—Fox Lake

Dear Customer:

Yes! Even brand-new homes can have small gaps around windows, doors and entry-sites where heat escapes and cold gets in. Consider this: Three 1/8-inch cracks running the length of two 60-inch windows add up to the equivalent of a 22 square-inch hole in your outer wall! Closing those cracks can save you plenty.

There's a new energy at ComEd.™

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Vol. 5, No. 4

BACK TO NATURE

ComEd employees help bring back the prairie.

Call it the "little station on the prairie" – that's ComEd's Joliet station, which was the site of a prairie restoration project headed by Station Manager Bruce Renwick. An old quarry on ComEd property had been planted as native prairie,

but over the years, non-indigenous weeds began taking over the area.

Last spring the prairie restoration began with an on-site burn to kill off the "invaders" and regenerate native plants. Ensuring its success was wetland consultant firm Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., which graciously donated its services.

In the fall, when
the native

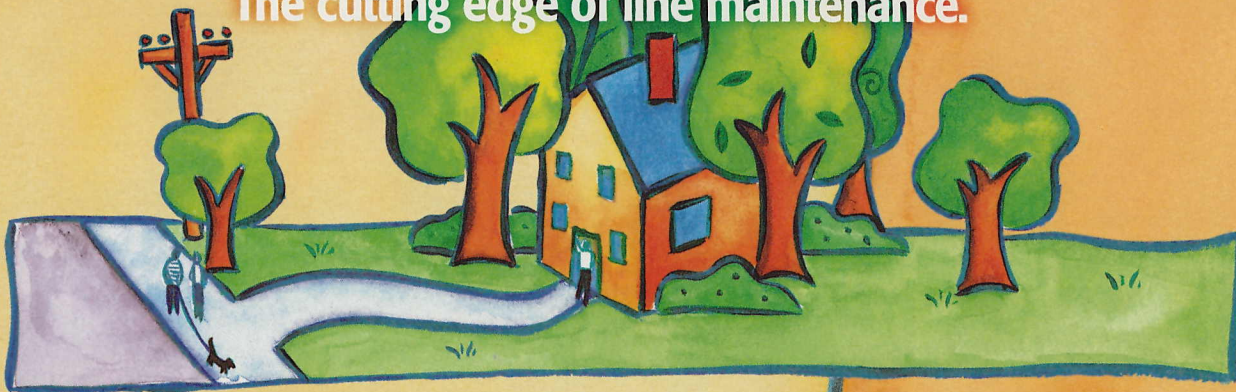
plants had successfully regrown, ComEd Environmental Stewardship volunteers collected seeds for use in planting new prairies on other ComEd properties. These areas will look great, provide a natural habitat for wildlife, prevent soil erosion, improve water and air quality – and save fuel, because no mowing is necessary. As for the Joliet site, it will be maintained as a prairie nursery.

To find out more about our prairie restoration projects and other environmental efforts, call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) and ask for a copy of ComEd's Environmental Annual Report.



TREE TRIMMING

The cutting edge of line maintenance.



Maintaining overhead electric lines is necessary to keep electricity flowing. Often, that means trimming tree branches that interfere with the lines. ComEd's trimming professionals have the safety expertise needed for trimming close to service lines, as well as an understanding of tree care and proper pruning techniques.

THINK LOW

Here are some low-growing trees that are safe to plant around overhead power lines:

- Ivory Silk Japanese Tree Lilac
- Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry
- Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn
- Red Jewel Crabapple
- Prairiefire Crabapple
- Common Witch Hazel

Never try to trim a tree near a power line yourself. And before you remove a tree near a line, call

1-800-Edison-1 and a ComEd representative will advise you on how to proceed to get the job done safely.

This constant line maintenance and trimming operation not only helps maintain a reliable power supply for our customers, it also results in a big supply of wood chips for mulch or decoration.

AS MULCH AS YOU WANT.

What do we do with the branches we trim? Make wood chips. And give them away to homeowners who would like mulch for their landscape decoration. In fact, we've got 11 locations around the area where you can pick up all the wood chips you need. For our free *Mulching with Wood Chips* booklet, call 1-800-Edison-1.



CUSTOMER QUESTION

We're moving. How do I make sure the electricity is turned off at our old house and turned on at our new one?

Call us at 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) at least a week before you move. Just give us the name on your account, your account number and your old address, the date of your move and your new address. ComEd will do the rest, and your electric service will be ready for you by the time you move in.

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CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Planning season is a good time to remember that underground electric lines, telephone lines and gas and water mains could be right under your shovel. So before you dig, call and have all your services marked where they are located. The service is FREE! In Chicago, call **DIGGER** at 1-312-744-7000. Outside Chicago, call **JULIE** at 1-800-892-0123.

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Vol.5, No.5

CHECK UP BEFORE YOU COOL DOWN.

**And
save cold cash in
the bargain.**

The enclosed check-up coupon offers you savings right now...and you'll continue saving all summer long, because your central air conditioner will be running at peak efficiency. That's important, when you consider that cooling your home may account for up to 50% of your summer electricity costs.

You see, even today's most modern, energy-efficient units face enemies like weather, dirt, corrosion, settling and vibration, which work to reduce efficiency. That can cost you money—up to 25% higher operating expenses!

A check-up can save money there, plus it can extend the life of your air conditioner and help to eliminate mechanical failure, reducing repair costs. That adds up to peace of mind, knowing you're ready

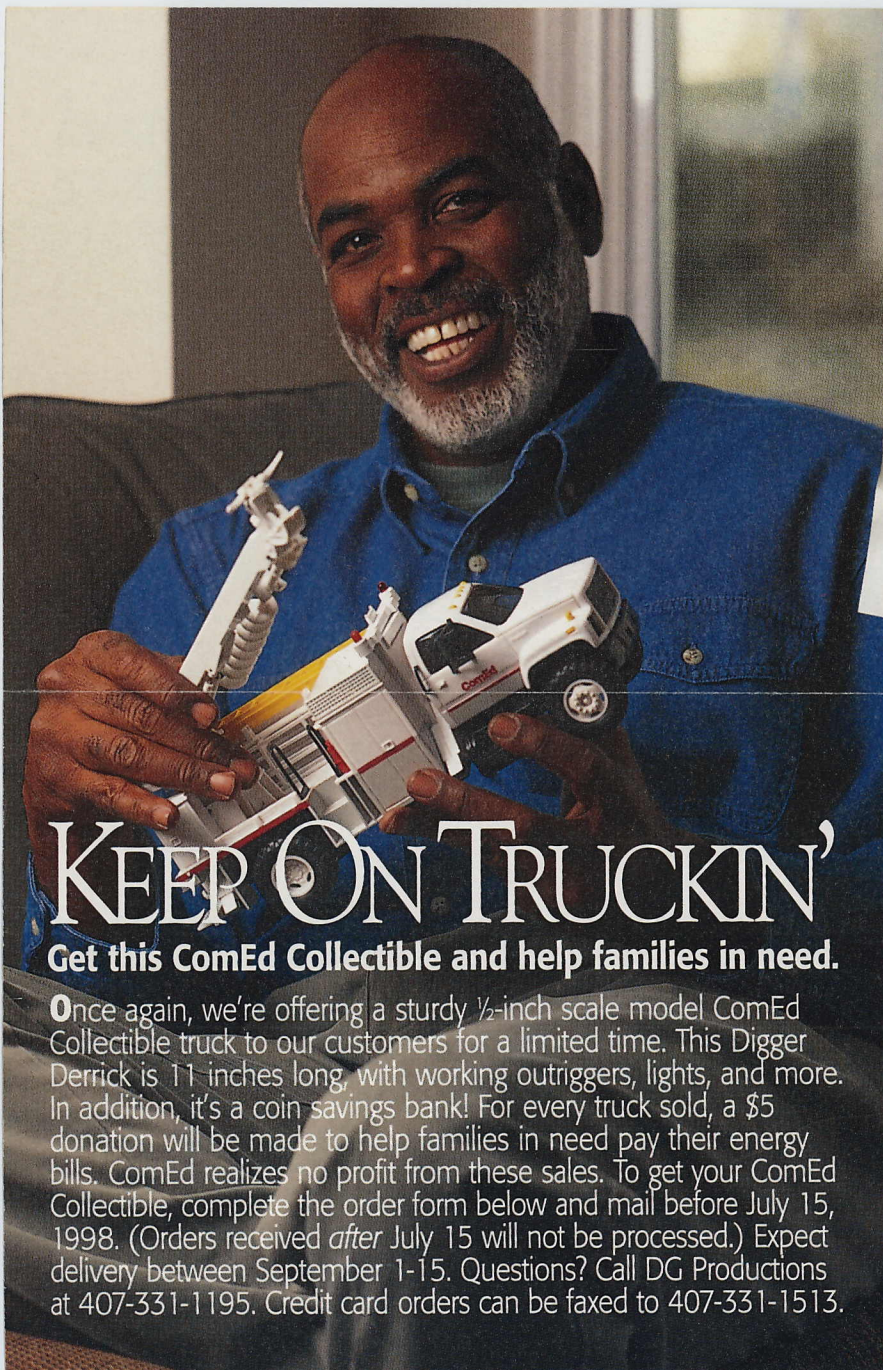
for a comfortable, problem-free cooling season.

So don't put it off. Schedule that check-up at least several weeks before the hot weather hits. That way, both you and your a/c will be in top shape, ready to weather whatever Mother Nature has in store.

WHAT'S IN A CHECK-UP?

1. Inspect and clean outdoor condenser coil.
2. Check refrigerant charge.
3. Check system temperature drop and airflow.
4. Inspect thermostat and operating controls.
5. Check furnace filter and recommend replacement if necessary.

Expect your check-up investment to normally cost up to \$95. Use the enclosed coupon to get special savings now!



KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

Get this ComEd Collectible and help families in need.

Once again, we're offering a sturdy 1/2-inch scale model ComEd Collectible truck to our customers for a limited time. This Digger Derrick is 11 inches long, with working outriggers, lights, and more. In addition, it's a coin savings bank! For every truck sold, a \$5 donation will be made to help families in need pay their energy bills. ComEd realizes no profit from these sales. To get your ComEd Collectible, complete the order form below and mail before July 15, 1998. (Orders received *after* July 15 will not be processed.) Expect delivery between September 1-15. Questions? Call DG Productions at 407-331-1195. Credit card orders can be faxed to 407-331-1513.

POLES, YES! BULLETIN BOARDS, NO!

Please keep utility poles free from notices like garage sales, birthday parties, etc. Also, please keep them clear of basketball hoops. The fasteners such as nails and staples can cause injury to our employees when they're trying to make repairs or restore power.

CUSTOMER QUESTION

I have this green box in my back-yard containing your electric equipment. Can I plant around it?

Leave at least 10 feet of space in front of ground-level transformers (usually where the padlock is located), and 3 feet around the sides and back. Also allow 3 feet of accessible space in front of your electric meter and around that green pedestal. This will help us get to our equipment for emergency repair or routine maintenance, and will also protect your plantings. Questions? Please call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661).

ORDER FORM

Please send me _____
ComEd Collectible Digger Derrick truck(s)
at \$25.90 each (\$19.95 + \$5.95 shipping & handling). Full payment is enclosed.

Make checks payable to:

DG Productions, Inc.
P.O. Box 522288
Longwood, FL 32752
(Florida residents add applicable sales tax.)

- ☐ Visa
☐ M.C.

Name _____	Card Number _____
Address _____	Expiration date _____
City, State, Zip _____	Signature _____
() _____	Total enclosed _____
Daytime phone number _____	

Trucks require 2 AA batteries (not included). Due to small parts, this Collectible is not recommended for children under four years.

NEW, IMPROVED BILL Coming this Summer.

Our larger, easier-to-read bill format will contain your new account number. This will help us keep track of your energy needs, even if you move, as long as you're a ComEd customer. It's the first of several improvements we're introducing to provide you with better service.

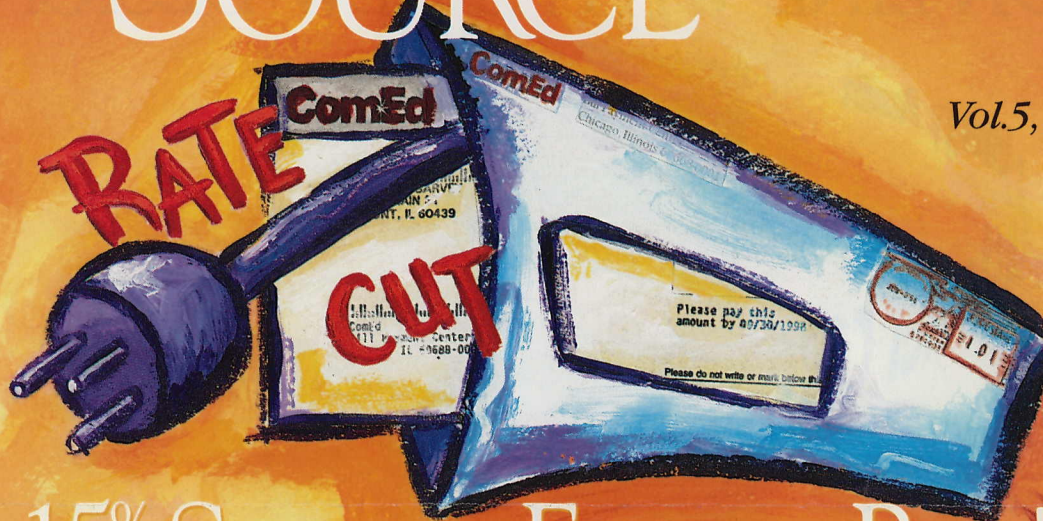
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THE SOURCE

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Vol.5, No.8



15% SAVINGS FIT THE BILL!

Here's the scoop on your ComEd rate reduction.

By now you're probably aware that, starting August 1, your residential base electric rates have been reduced by 15%. This is one of the first steps in the new law enacted by the Illinois General Assembly to restructure the Illinois electric industry.

The sample bill on this page will help you understand the areas affected by this rate reduction, so you can be more knowledgeable about your bill.

Customer charge – This covers the cost of the service connection, meter, meter reading and billing. Please note that this also includes a 45-cent charge for state funds for renewable energy resources, coal technology development and low-income

energy assistance.

This charge is not subject to the rate reduction. So, following the example on this page, we reduce all but 45 cents of the \$9.36 charge by 15%, to get a new, lower total.

Energy charge – This is the

cost per kilowatt-hour multiplied by the number of kilowatt-hours used. Looking at the example shown, you'll see this charge is also reduced by 15%.

Light bulb charge

If you're taking part in our Light Bulb Service program, you'll see a 15% reduction here, as well. Naturally, if you're a member of our

Budget Billing program, your monthly payment will be reduced to reflect the base rate cut.

Remember, the 15% base rate reduction will automatically begin August 1!

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Questions or service problems? 24 hours a day, call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7861)

00000 0000 00000 0000
0000000000
Payment Amount
Please pay this amount by 09/30/1998 \$97.40
Please do not write or mark below this line

Return this portion with your check made payable to ComEd. Please write your account number on your check.

00000 0000 00000 0000

Page 1
Name JOHN A. SAMPLE
Service Location 1234 Main Street, Anywhere
Phone Number 000-000-0000
Account Number 0000000000
Issue Date 09/08/1998

Meter Information
Read Date 09/08
Meter Number 0000000000
Reading Type Tot kWh
Load Type General Service
Meter Reading Previous Present
6328ACT 63287ACT
Diff Mult x Usage
959 kWh X \$0.08920 \$8.02 32 Days
959 kWh X -.00048 .46
500 kWh X .00115 .58
959 kWh X .59264% 0.56
959 kWh X -.00330 3.16

Current Period
Res Gen Service - Single
Customer charge
Energy charge
Decommissioning adjustment
Light bulb service
Franchise cost
State tax
Total current charges
Total amount due

Service from 08/07/98 to 09/08/98
959 kWh X \$0.08920
959 kWh X -.00048
500 kWh X .00115
959 kWh X .59264%
959 kWh X -.00330

Before rate reduction \$97.40
After rate reduction \$97.40

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Headquarters: 1-800-334-7861 (TDD)
Customer Service: 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7861)

ON-LINE WITH A NEW DESIGN.

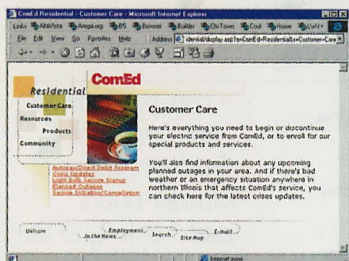
Energy Audit

Customer Care

Resource

Community

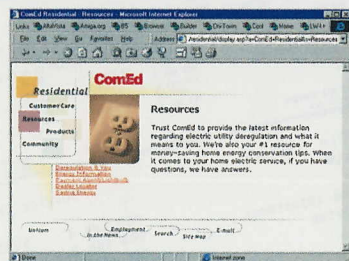
If you have access to a computer and the World Wide Web, be sure to check out our new home page at www.ucm.com. We've totally redesigned the page



to make it easier for you to navigate, and to give you a more convenient way to access information and services.

The section for our residential customers has been divided into subsections. Under Customer Care you can start, cancel or move your electric service, even enroll in our Automatic Payment and Light Bulb Service programs.

Look to Resources for energy efficiency tips, information on Illinois electric utility restructuring, back issues of *The Source* and answers to frequently asked questions. Click on Community to learn more about ComEd's community outreach programs such as EnergyNet, The Electric Universe® and The Power House.



One of our web site's most popular features is the Home Energy Audit, designed to help you analyze your usage

patterns and then offer customized advice on how to better manage the way you use energy at home.

Here's how easy it is to do:

1. Go to the ComEd residential home page and click on "Resources." (Or you can go directly to the audit via www.ucm.com/energyaudit.)
2. Following the prompt, enter your ComEd account number. Then answer the series of simple questions about how you use electricity at home.
3. It only takes a few seconds to analyze your answer. You'll receive a detailed energy usage report, energy-saving tips and a summary of energy savings.

ComEd's new web site can help make your life easier and give you ways to save money. See you soon on the Web!

What do you do with your power?

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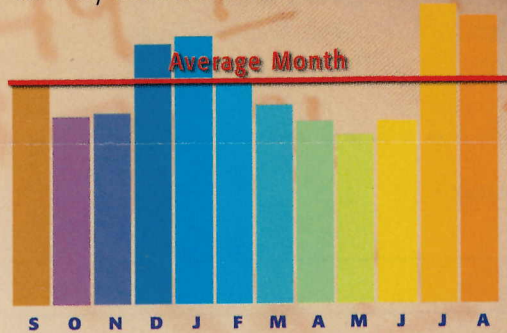
WHY NOT PAY THE EASY WAY?

ComEd has two bright ideas to simplify your life.

Looking for ways to uncomplicate your busy life, and save time in the process? Have we got two plans for you! With just a single phone call, paying your electric bill can be as easy as one, two...

1. The Budget Billing Plan.

Let's face it, your electric bill can vary from month to month



for a lot of reasons: seasonal changes, weather, number of electrical conveniences you use and other factors. If you don't like the uncertainty of billing swings, or the time it takes to plan your budget, ComEd's Budget Billing Plan is literally made to order.

It works by spreading out your electric service costs evenly throughout the year. We'll look at how much energy you used over a 12-month period, then divide that amount into 12 monthly payments.

To ensure that you don't face a large outstanding balance at the end of a year

(if, for example, you should use more electricity), we'll check your usage every three months and recalculate a new average. If that average significantly increases or decreases

your monthly payment, we'll adjust it accordingly.

2. The Automatic Payment Plan.

If Budget Billing means no surprises, and more free time, then Automatic Payment means no postage, no checks to write, and no bill to forget—and one less thing to worry about.

The amount of your monthly electric bill will be automatically



deducted from your checking account on the due date (paid by your bank electronically, of course!).

We'll continue to send you a monthly statement 21 days before your due date so that you can track your use of electricity and know how much money will be deducted from your account.

Together, Budget Billing and Automatic Payment plans are real time savers, giving you the most convenient, easiest way to pay. To find out how to sign up, or for more information, call us at

1-800-EDISON-1
(1-800-334-7661).

Calling all Young Artists!

Enter ComEd's Safety Poster Contest.

Once again, it's time for anyone between the ages of 6 and 12 to send us a prize-winning safety poster. Your budding artist could win a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond! The rules are simple:

1. Choose one of the following 6 safety tips and express the idea in a poster that measures 8½ x 11 inches. (Please note, no other size can be accepted.)
2. Submit your masterpiece with the entry form below, post-marked no later than Friday, October 30, 1998.
3. Mail the poster and entry form to: ComEd Safety Poster Contest P.O. Box 8522 Prospect Hts., IL 60070

Winners will be chosen in two categories: ages 6-8, and 9-12. ComEd judges will review all entries and select a grand prize winner in each category based on creativity, originality, neatness and compatibility with safety tip.

Winning entries will be published in a future issue of The Source. Runners-up will receive a ComEd Power House "Power Pack" of gifts and information.

Good luck, and have fun!

Following these tips can keep everyone safe:

1. Don't touch electrical cords that are broken or frayed.
2. Don't stick fingers or any other objects into light sockets or appliances.
3. Unplug appliances by pulling on the plug, never the cord.
4. Don't touch anything electrical if you are wet or standing in water.
5. Don't climb trees or fly kites, model airplanes or balloons near power lines.
6. Stay away from fallen power lines and sites or equipment marked "Danger," "High Voltage," "Keep Out" or "Electric Current."



ComEd Safety Poster Contest Entry Form (attach to poster)

Created by: _____	Age: _____	My poster is Tip# _____
Home Address: _____	City: _____	State: IL ZIP: _____
Telephone No. () _____	Name of parent or legal guardian: _____	
Address: (if different from above) _____	City: _____	State: IL ZIP: _____
Signature of parent or guardian: _____		

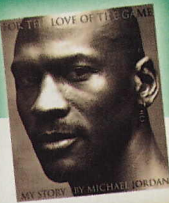
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Complete/Affix the Official Entry Form or print your name, address, daytime phone number, age and signature of parent or legal guardian on the back of your poster and mail to: ComEd Safety Poster Contest, P.O. Box 8522, Prospect Hts., IL 60070. Entries must be received by 11/15/98. Winners will be selected on or about 11/30/98. Prizes to be awarded per age category: One (1) Grand Prize: a \$500.00 U.S. Savings Bond. Nine (9) Runners-up will receive a ComEd Power House "Power Pack" of gifts and information. Grand Prize winners will be notified by phone. Runners-up will be notified by mail. Open to children of ComEd customers, 6-12 years of age at time of entry, except employees of ComEd, its respective affiliates, their advertising, promotion and judging agencies and the immediate families or household members of each. Void where prohibited. Contest is subject to complete Official Rules. For complete Official Rules, send a self-addressed stamped envelope by 10/31/98 to: ComEd Safety Poster Rules, Advertising Dept., 38 FN East, P.O. Box 767, Chicago, IL 60690-0767.



Have you got your copy yet? Michael Jordan's "For the Love of the Game: My Story" the collector's edition. Call 1-888-999-9172. To guarantee delivery by Christmas, order by December 15!

ComEd

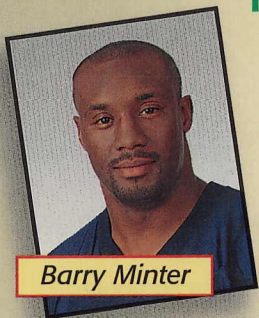
A Unicom Company

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THE SOURCE

TEAM SPIRIT.

**PRO ATHLETES JOIN ComEd TO CHEER KIDS
IN AREA HOSPITALS.**



Barry Minter

A lot of smiles will be appearing on the faces of children confined to hospital beds this holiday season when athletes from Chicago sports teams will be joining ComEd executives to pass out toys and one-of-a-kind Power Crew trading cards featuring the Power Crew athletes to boys and girls at hospitals throughout northern Illinois.

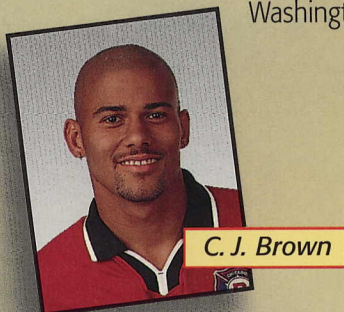


Participating will be Andy Heck and Barry Minter from the Bears, John Paxson from the Bulls, Mickey Morandini from the Cubs, C.J. Brown from the Fire, and John Snyder from the White Sox. The spirit of pulling together to help others has long been practiced at ComEd, and we encourage everyone to find it in their hearts to help neighbors, friends and family this holiday season and all year long.

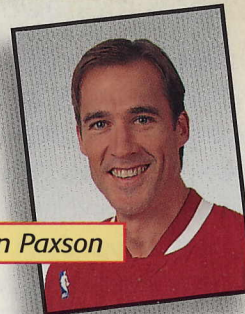


Mickey Morandini

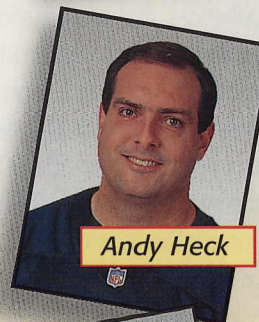
Incidentally, if you know someone who would enjoy receiving the unique trading cards, they'll be available, while supplies last, at the ComEd-sponsored Skate on State, open daily on State Street between Washington and Randolph.



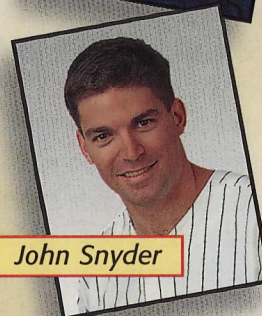
C. J. Brown



John Paxson



Andy Heck



John Snyder

The Power Crew will visit:

Children's Memorial Hospital

Shriner's Children's Hospital

Lutheran General
Children's Hospital

Ronald McDonald Children's
Hospital at Loyola
Medical Center

Rockford Memorial Hospital

**ComEd
POWER
CREW**

EVERY HOME NEEDS AT LEAST ONE OF THESE.

Protect your family with a reliable carbon monoxide alarm.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, and very dangerous gas that can be generated by incomplete combustion of natural gas and other carbon-based fuels. It has a chance of building up in your home and it can cause nausea, headaches, dizziness — even death.

Carbon monoxide is produced by the burning of any fossil fuel (i.e. coal, oil or natural gas). Fuel-burning appliances that are installed incorrectly or are not working properly can produce concentrations of CO. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, nearly 300 people die from CO poisoning each year, and over 15,000 need emergency treatment. Tell-tale signs your appliance isn't working properly:

- Furnace doesn't heat house or runs constantly
- Soot, rust or stains on appliance, vents and chimneys
- Unfamiliar or burning odor

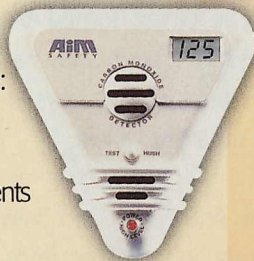
Protect yourself and your family from carbon monoxide by installing an alarm outside at least one bedroom in your home.

Look for the money-saving coupon on a state-of-the-art CO alarm from AIM Safety, in your electric bill this month. AIM Safety alarms are the first to be IAS 6-96* approved, and are self-powered. You'll never need to buy replacement batteries or sensors.

Other ways to protect yourself and family:

- Install appliances according to manufacturer's instructions
- Inspect and service heating system annually
- Never use your range or oven to heat your home

* IAS, formerly the American Gas Association Laboratories, is a leading standard and product testing organization for appliances and accessories fueled by natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas



**aim
safety**

Customer Question

Q: I keep reading about upcoming computer problems when we go from 1999 to 2000. Is ComEd doing anything about it?

A: Yes, a team of experts responsible for various functions in our company have been working on this issue since mid-1996. We know that as the electricity supplier for northern Illinois, what we do impacts everyone. If we're not ready, no one else can be. Our team has been reviewing and upgrading our generation, transmission and distribution systems to ensure that when midnight comes on December 31, 1999, the transfer to the new millennium will be as smooth and uneventful as possible. For more detailed information on how ComEd is preparing for the year 2000, call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) or visit our website at www.ucm.com. Just go to the ComEd Business home page and click on "Community."

What do you do with your power? SM

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DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK IF THE LIGHTS GO OUT.



ComEd is committed to supplying you with uninterrupted power. Yet, the forces of nature, lightning, strong winds and heavy rains, can disrupt service. While our crews are dedicated to restoring power as quickly as possible, in the event of a power outage, here are some important tips to follow.

- ☐ Check to see if your circuit breakers have tripped or your fuses have blown. If neighbors have also lost power, call us immediately at 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661).
- ☐ Turn off all appliances and lights (except one test light) to prevent damage from surges when power is restored.
- ☐ Make sure everyone in the family knows to stay away from downed power lines. And never to go into a flooded basement until it has been checked by an electrician. Call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) for our FREE "Flooded Basement Tips."
- ☐ Keep a supply of emergency items like flashlights, bottled water, and canned food where it can be easily located in the dark.



What To Toss

(When In Doubt, Throw It Out)

The USDA recommends the following guidelines: In the event of a power failure, keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed to keep food cold. Additionally, these foods should be discarded if kept for two hours over 40°F.)

- ☐ Meat, poultry, fish, eggs and egg substitutes.
- ☐ Milk, cream, yogurt, soft cheese, creamy salad dressings.
- ☐ Casseroles, stews, soups, lunch meats, hot dogs.

What To Keep

These foods can be kept at room temperature for a few days.

- ☐ Butter, margarine, hard and processed cheese.
- ☐ Fruits, fruit juices, vegetables.
- ☐ Baked goods, except cakes with cream filling or with cream cheese frosting.

What causes flashing on VCRs, clocks and microwaves?

The flashing you occasionally see on your appliances is the result of momentary power interruptions. Though annoying, it's also a sign that our system is working. Sensing a potential major problem such as a tree limb contacting a power line, the system shuts down the line as a precaution. In most cases, power is restored in a second or two, long enough to make the clocks flash, and avoid a major power interruption. We realize how frustrating these interruptions can be, especially when you have to reset your clock, and we are working hard within our industry to discover a technological solution.



SAVE WITH NATURE FIRST!

If you own your home and have central air conditioning, you can help make a difference in the environment, and on your electric bill, with ComEd's Nature First program.

This innovative AC cycling plan helps us manage demand during peak operating days in the summer, can save you up to \$40 per year, and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

By enrolling in Nature First, you allow us to cycle your AC compressor off and on during peak periods from June 1 to September 30. Cycling only occurs on the hottest days of the year between noon and 8 p.m. (never on weekends or holidays). In return, you'll receive a credit on your electric bill.

The 50% Option: Cycles off a maximum of 15 minutes per half hour. Earns you a \$5/month credit, for a total of \$20.

The 100% Option: Cycles off one continuous three-hour period per weekday. You'll receive a credit of \$10/month, for a total of \$40.

Thanks to the over 27,000 households participating in Nature First, over 537,000 kilowatt-hours of peak electric energy was saved last summer. They also helped reduce peak carbon dioxide emissions by 150 tons, and peak sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide by 1,744 pounds.

And cycling only occurred three times!

There are three ways to join:

1. Call 1-800-986-0070
2. Complete and return the enclosed card
3. Enroll through our web site at www.ucm.com



Nature First is available in most communities served by ComEd. However, due to geographical paging limitations, customers in Kankakee, Freeport and the surrounding communities are not eligible to participate. Customers who live in Gurnee are not eligible due to technical requirements by your Village. If you'd still like to help conserve energy, call us at 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) to receive a FREE copy of ComEd's Home Energy Savings Guide.

ComEd's Safety Poster Contest Winners

With over 750 creative posters, choosing a winner was difficult. After careful consideration, Theodore Golota's poster was chosen Grand Prize winner in the 6-8 year age group, and Jessica Wallace's entry won in the 9-12 year age group. Both Theodore and Jessica will receive a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond for their efforts. Our thanks to everyone who entered.

What do you do with your power? SM

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THE SOURCE

ComEd

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Vol.6, No.4

WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WITHIN OUR POWER TO ENSURE RELIABLE SERVICE

Nothing is more important to us, and our customers, than the reliable supply and delivery of electrical power. That's why we at ComEd have rededicated our focus, energies and resources to delivering greater reliability in every facet of our business.

Preventative maintenance is the foundation of our efforts. This year, we are expanding our ongoing maintenance and upgrading of critical equipment such as feeders and transformers. And, to help keep tree limbs from causing service interruptions, ComEd maintains an extensive, environmentally-friendly tree trimming program. (See back page for more information.)

If ComEd crews are performing necessary scheduled service in your neighborhood, we'll make every effort to let you know about it in advance, especially when the work requires a brief planned outage. We'll use the mail, advertising, local media and government, to reduce "surprise outages," and help minimize any inconvenience.

Unfortunately, some outages cannot be foreseen due to severe weather or other events. In these cases, we'll deploy 24-hour repair crews to restore power as quickly as possible.

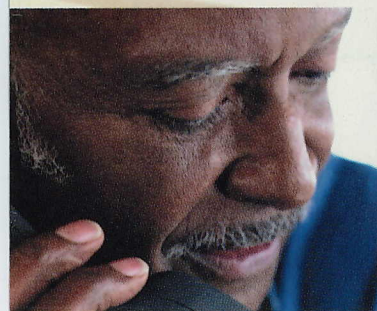
We're also working to keep our infrastructure reliable and ensure our computer systems are Y2k compliant, and our power generation plants are operating safely and efficiently.

At ComEd, we're working hard to ensure reliable electric service...and the complete satisfaction of our customers.



Make Bill Paying Effortless And Reliable

Never again use a check, cash, or even a stamp to pay your electric bill. Just join ComEd's Automatic Payment Plan, and your Payment Due amount will be automatically deducted from your checking account. You still get a statement for your records, but paying your bill every month will seem almost effortless. Call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) for your Automatic Payment Form today.



TREE TRIMMING

KEEPING THE LINES CLEAR

ComEd has over 700 professional arborists helping to make trees and power lines coexist without a threat to safety or power interruption. They have the expertise to identify potential problem situations and safely trim only those limbs necessary. Knowledgeable in proper tree care and pruning techniques, our arborists specialize in keeping tree branches away from power lines and are helping to ensure a reliable, uninterrupted supply of electricity to our customers.

If you're planting new trees near power lines, use trees that will not grow to a height of over 25 feet. Here are a few of the beautiful species that grow well in this area, and will eliminate the need for trimming in the years to come: *Ivory Silk Japanese Tree Lilac*; *Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry*; *Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn*; *Red Jewel* or *Prairiefire Crabapple*; *Common Witch Hazel*.

Through thoughtful planting and preventive tree trimming, we can maintain beautiful trees...and the reliable delivery of power to your home.

Never attempt to trim a tree near power lines. Call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) and one of our professionals will advise you on safe procedures.

The ComEd Environmental Report

ComEd is committed to preserving the natural environment of the communities we serve. In fact, in recognition of our efforts, we were recently named as a *Tree Line USA Utility* by The National Arbor Day Foundation. Cited for our quality tree care, worker training, tree planting and public education efforts, this award represents only one of the many ways we're supporting the environment.



To learn more about ComEd's ecological efforts, call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) to request a copy of our *Annual Environmental Report*.

For more information about Arbor Day, visit www.arborday.org

Tree Line USA is sponsored in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters. Celebrate Arbor Day April 30th in Illinois.

What do you do with your power? SM

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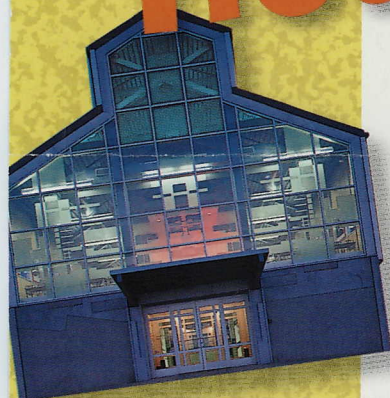
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Vol.6, No.5

The Power House

A Fun And Illuminating Experience For The Entire Family



Fun ... Educational ... Free ... what could be better than a family trip to The Power House, ComEd's interactive energy museum in Zion, Illinois?

A visit to The Power House is guaranteed to be a fun filled event, as children of all ages and adults learn about power, energy and conservation through entertaining activities and exhibits.

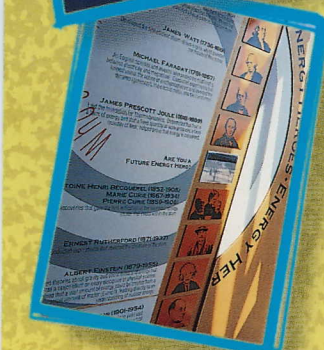
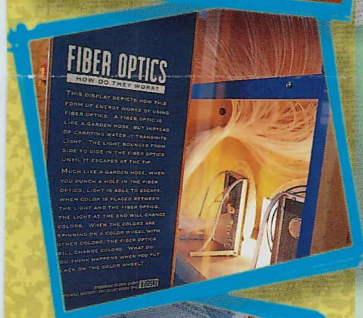
In addition to all the displays at The Power House, right next door is the Hosah Park Interactive Nature Trail. One of the few remaining dunesland ecosystems, and home to dozens of endangered plant and bird species, the trail is open from dawn to dusk every day of the year!

This summer, come visit the newest special exhibit at The Power House. ***Breaking Through: The Creative Engineer***, will be on display from June 1 to August 31, 1999.

The Creative Engineer isn't about the people who drive trains, but the people who design them. In fact, engineers play a vital role in the design of virtually all products made by people—from radios and roller coasters to power systems and space stations. This new exhibit provides a fascinating look at all the ways engineers use their creativity to give shape to the world in which we live.

So don't miss *Breaking Through: The Creative Engineer*, and all the other interactive and fun ways to take an illuminating look at power—visit The Power House with your family soon.

The Power House energy museum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call **(847) 746-7080**.



The Power House Activity Programs

ATTN: BOY SCOUTS

Boy Scouts (age 10 - 18) can earn their Nuclear Energy Merit Badge at The Power House every first and third Saturday of the month (September through June).

This is a chance for all Boy Scouts, from Tenderfoot to Eagle, to learn all about nuclear energy. And to earn a merit badge by successfully completing a worksheet.

By Reservation Only—call **(847) 746-7492** to participate.



ATTN: GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouts (age 8 - 11) can participate in Science Discovery badge activities every second and fourth Saturday of the month (September through June).

Activities include building a kaleidoscope, while learning about light and reflection—and becoming a Bubbleologist by learning about surface tension.

By Reservation Only. Allow four hours for program completion. Call **(847) 746-7492** to participate.

Non-Scouts or those too young to take part in these programs can still earn badges by becoming members of The Power House Energy Savers Team—no reservations are required!



NEVER WRITE ANOTHER CHECK FOR YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

If you don't enjoy paying bills, you should sign up for ComEd's Automatic Payment Plan. With this plan, the amount due on your ComEd statement will automatically be deducted from your checking account on the due date. Your electric bill will be paid on time, every time—without using up your checks, stamps or valuable time.

So go ahead, join nearly 200,000 people who have already signed up for ComEd's Automatic Payment Plan. Call **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661) and ask for an Automatic Payment Plan form to be sent to your home. When you complete and return the form with a canceled check, you will be enrolled. And you won't ever have to write another check for your electric bill again. What could be easier than that?

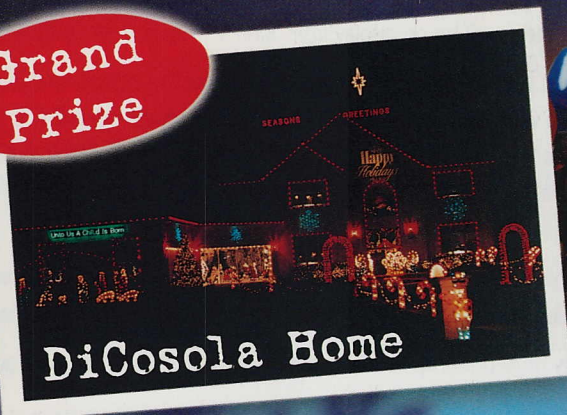
Of course, you'll still receive your monthly ComEd statement. That way you'll know how much money will be deducted from your checking account.

ComEd's Automatic Payment Plan is the easiest way to pay your electric bill ... and simplify your life. Call ComEd today, and ask for your Automatic Payment Plan form.

AUTOMATIC PAYMENT PLAN

CHICAGOLAND HOMES LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS

Grand
Prize



DiCosola Home

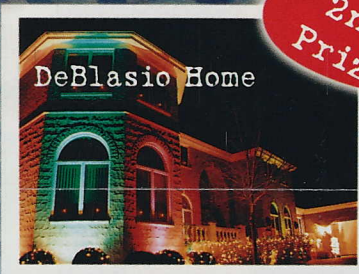
1st
Prize

Kobleski Home



2nd
Prize

DeBlasio Home



Congratulations to the DiCosola family for their winning entry in ComEd's Holiday Decorating Contest. There were so many creative and original decorations this year that judging was difficult, but the DiCosola's Bartlett home won the Grand Prize and they will receive a \$500 Gift Certificate from Sears HomeCentral™. The Kobleski family of Darien was awarded First Prize and a \$350 Gift Certificate. Second Prize—and a \$250 Sears HomeCentral Gift Certificate—went to the DeBlasio family of South Barrington. In addition, all the winners will receive an autographed copy of Mary Edsey's award-winning book, "The Best Christmas Decorations in Chicagoland."

Thanks to everyone who participated, and whose decorations brightened up the Holiday Season for everyone who saw them.

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Vol. 6, No. 6

ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR Y2k.

ComEd remains on track to be Y2k ready by our target date of June 30, 1999. Our Y2k team continues to thoroughly prepare our embedded systems and software against problems associated with the Y2k bug. By the time you receive your next issue of *The Source*, we expect our entire company will be ready to make a well-managed, trouble-free transition into the next millennium.

The ComEd Y2k readiness initiative began in 1996 and has involved more than 300 team members responsible for different functions at the company. As a result of dedication and hard work, all ComEd office facilities, as well as mainframe applications and systems, are 100% Y2k ready. To make sure that newly renovated applications and inventory remain Year 2000 ready, we've implemented "Clean Management" procedures. This means we have checkpoints in place to ensure that any non-compliant

clean management

systems, components, warehouse items, etc. do not get into our Y2k ready environment. In addition, an independent auditor is helping us assess the process we're using to address the Year 2000 issue.

From the beginning, ComEd has provided regular updates on our progress and has shared information with the media, government, regulatory agencies, and – most importantly – customers like you. *If you would like additional information on ComEd's Year 2000 efforts, please call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) for a free brochure, or visit our Web site at www.ucm.com.*

JUNE 30, 1999
Y2k
READY

ComEd's Y2k Progress Impresses NRC.

When Nuclear Regulatory Commission auditors visited ComEd's Braidwood Station in January of this year, they had nothing but praise for ComEd's Y2k efforts.

The audit team noted ComEd's aggressive Y2k program, and cited executive sponsorship and company commitment as key elements of its program.

"ComEd is tackling the Y2k issue with one company-wide approach," said Elijah Campbell, the project lead for ComEd's Nuclear Generation Group. "The NRC's comments go well beyond Braidwood – they apply to the entire company."

WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN ALL BREATHE EASIER THIS SUMMER.

Summer is a time of warm sunshine, picnics and excursions to the beach. Unfortunately, it's also a time of Ozone Action days – when heat and sunshine result in high levels of ground-level ozone smog.

The Partners for Clean Air invite you to join the fight against pollution. When you hear an Ozone Action Day announced on the television or radio, just follow these simple tips.

1. Put off mowing the lawn or using any gas-powered equipment.
2. Avoid using paint, varnish or any fume-producing household products.
3. Don't drive to work – take public transportation to reduce exhaust emissions. If you must drive – carpool. And, avoid excessive idling and jack-rabbit starts.
4. Wait until after 7 p.m. to refuel your car.
5. If you barbecue, don't use lighter fluid. Instead, fire up the charcoal with a chimney starter or electric wand, available at most hardware stores.

If each of us follows these simple steps, we can all enjoy a healthier summer ... and healthier lives.

OZONE ACTION DAYS

Customer Question.

Q. *Is there a service that will tell me where cables and wires are buried in my lawn? I'm planting bushes this year and need to know.*

A. Yes – and it's absolutely FREE! Because electrical lines, telephone cables, and gas and water mains may be buried in your yard, it's **extremely important** that you call before you dig. Call at least two working days before you begin digging.

To take advantage of this FREE service:

Call **JULIE** at 1-800-892-0123 if you live outside the city of Chicago.

Call **DIGGER** at (312) 744-7000 if you live within the Chicago city limits.

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Vol.6, No.7



SOME ADVICE TO HELP YOU SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY.

ENERGY STAR® lights the way for lower energy costs and a cleaner environment.



How can you save money on your energy bills and help save the environment? It's simple — just look for the ENERGY STAR® label the next time you purchase an appliance.

A joint effort of the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy, this innovative program promotes the efficient, responsible use of the world's energy resources.

To earn the ENERGY STAR® label, an appliance must meet stringent efficiency standards. Using these products will save energy resources, reduce pollution ... and cut your utility bills. Compared to standard appliances:

- ☐ ENERGY STAR® qualified washers consume up to 40% less water — and 65% less energy.
- ☐ ENERGY STAR® qualified light fixtures use up to 75% less energy.
- ☐ Using ENERGY STAR® qualified products can save you up to \$400 in energy costs per year.

Many ENERGY STAR® qualified products cost about the same as standard products. Most of those with higher price tags can make up the difference in cost over a short period of time through energy savings.

ComEd urges you to look for the ENERGY STAR® label whenever you purchase an appliance. It makes sense for your home ... and our world.

To find ENERGY STAR® qualified appliance retailers, visit:
www.energystar.gov



Helping Customers Learn More About Energy ... And Pay Less.

Here are a few of the many resources ComEd provides to help our customers learn about energy ... and save money.



☐ **Home Energy Audit**
Get your personal on-line gas and electric usage analysis ... and money-saving energy tips. (See reverse side for more information.)

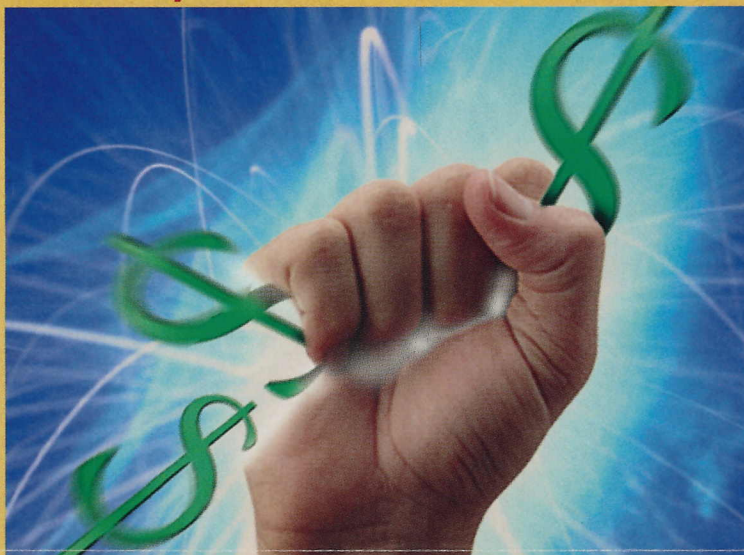
☐ **The Power House**
ComEd's interactive energy museum for kids in Zion, Illinois. **FREE** admission.

☐ **The Power Bus**
ComEd's interactive energy exhibit on wheels!

☐ **Nature First**
Helping to make a difference in the environment ... and on your electric bill ... by helping us better manage our energy resources.

For more energy-saving tips from ComEd, call: 1-888-999-9172.

We All Pay A Stiff Price For Electrical Theft.



Every year over \$30 million in electricity is stolen by customers who bypass their electric meters to avoid paying for the power they use.

And *you* pay the price — in higher energy costs — and in increased risk to neighborhood safety. That's because meter tampering not only drives up the cost of electricity for the rest of us, it can also result in shock, electrocution, circuit overloads and fire. Tampering by unqualified amateurs is extremely dangerous — putting neighborhood property and people in peril.

The theft of electricity is costly, dangerous and illegal. Unlike most customers who work hard to save energy, power thieves make no attempt to conserve. We are working hard to stop power theft, but we need your help. If you know or suspect that someone has rewired an electric meter, you can call **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661) to file a confidential report. The situation will be investigated and your identity will remain anonymous.

A NATURAL RESOURCE FOR SUMMER FUN.

Get your **FREE** copy of
A PLACE FOR ALL SEASONS.



This brochure lists lands and facilities ComEd has opened to the public for recreational activities. From sport fishing and nature walks to fossil hunting and camping, you'll find some of the best recreational areas in Northern Illinois waiting for you this summer.

Call

1-800-Edison-1

(1-800-334-7661)

for your **FREE** copy of

A Place For All Seasons.

CUSTOMER QUESTION.

Q. Does ComEd offer any type of energy audit that I can use to help me save money on my electric bill?

A. Yes — ComEd's On-Line Home Energy Audit is free, quick, easy ... and the best way to analyze your family's *electric and gas usage*. You'll also receive tips on reducing your electric and gas bills. To take advantage of this valuable resource, have your ComEd account number, and summer and winter *gas* bills available, and go to: **www.energyaudit.com/comed**

Just answer a few questions, and you'll receive a personalized energy usage report in seconds. It's that easy.

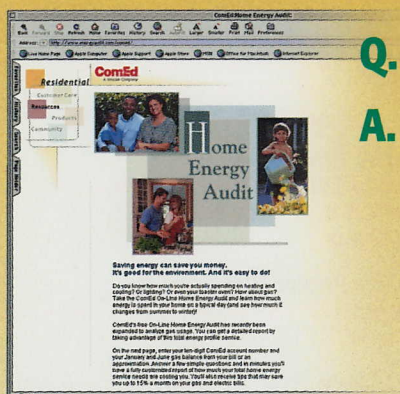
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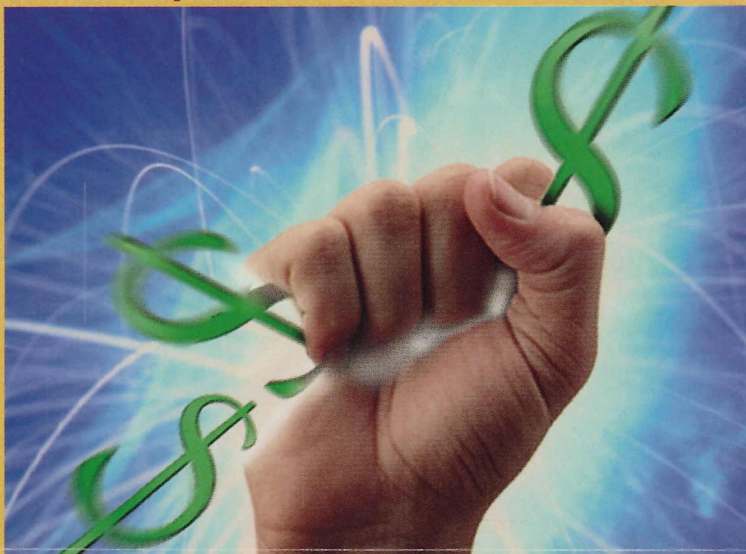
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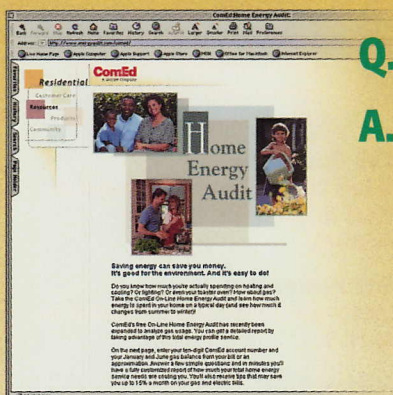


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LOAD UP ON SAVINGS.

Every time we use energy, it affects the environment. Buying energy-efficient products not only saves money on energy bills, but also reduces energy consumption, which can help the environment. That's why ComEd is

proud to partner with ENERGY STAR® and local Sears, Wards and Circuit City stores throughout northern Illinois, to bring you a special \$75 rebate offer on selected ENERGY STAR®-qualified washing machines.

To receive an ENERGY STAR® rating, an appliance must exceed minimum Federal standards. ENERGY STAR®-qualified washing machines use up to 50-70% less energy than conventional models. In addition, ENERGY STAR®-rated washing machines use up to 35-50% less water, saving your household as much as 6,000 gallons of water per year!

So clean up more than just your laundry with an ENERGY STAR®-qualified washer ... and take advantage of this special \$75 rebate when you purchase selected Frigidaire, GE, Kenmore, Maytag or Whirlpool models through November 15, 1999. Visit a participating retailer for complete details.

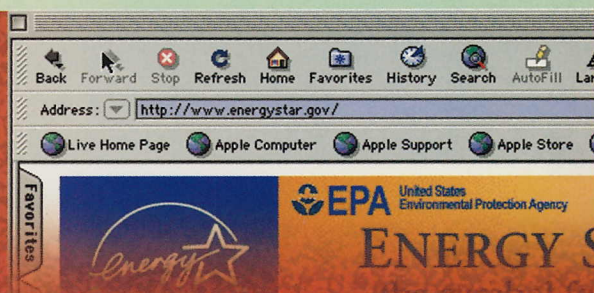
Rebate forms available at participating retailers. Rebate forms must be postmarked by December 15, 1999. Limit one rebate per household. Must be a current ComEd customer to participate. Rebate valid only on purchase of ENERGY STAR®-compliant clothes washers from participating dealers from August 15–November 15, 1999.

ENERGY STAR® is a joint effort of the U.S. Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency designed to reduce pollution by helping consumers buy products that use less energy. The ENERGY STAR® label identifies these energy-efficient products.

**CIRCUIT
CITY**

SEARS

Wards



Calculate how much an ENERGY STAR®-qualified washing machine can save your household.

Visit www.energystar.gov (and watch this space for more energy-saving tips from ComEd and ENERGY STAR®).

AHEAD OF OUR TIME.

ComEd announces 100% readiness for Y2k.

On June 30, Unicom Chairman and CEO, John W. Rowe, announced ComEd is 100% Y2k ready, six months before the December 31, 1999 deadline.

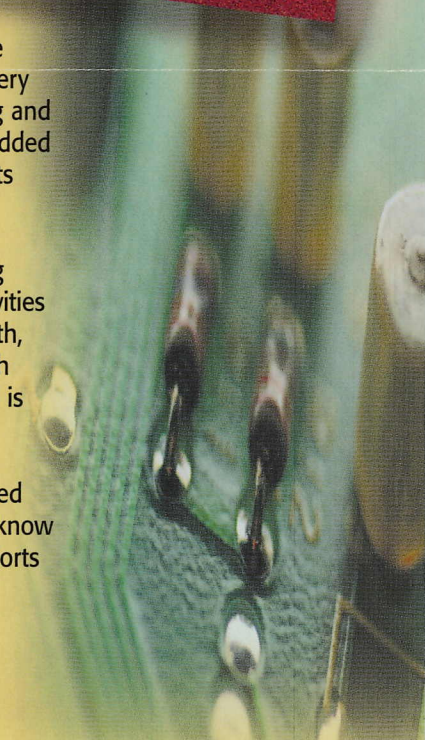
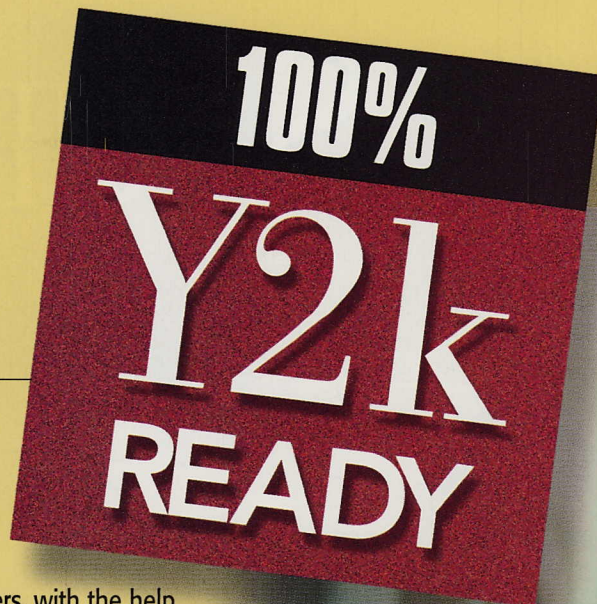
Since July 1996 over 300 company-wide Y2k team members, with the help of many others whose support was critical for success, worked hard to ensure all critical company computer systems were ready for the new millennium. Every aspect of our business was involved — from customer information, purchasing and supply systems to metering, transmission and generation. In addition, all embedded critical systems, control systems and instrumentation in our facilities and plants are prepared for the transition to the new century.

ComEd's Y2k team will continue to prepare for the rollover. We're proceeding with our contingency planning efforts, quality reviews and rigorous testing activities to further ensure the Y2k bug does not affect the electrical system. This month, we will participate in an industry-wide readiness drill coordinated by the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC). This is the second NERC drill and is described as a "dress rehearsal" for the rollover to 2000.

From the first, ComEd recognized the potential impacts of Y2k, and has devoted the people and resources needed to address the problem head-on. We also know you have a vital stake in our success, and need to be kept informed of our efforts to address this issue.

For the latest information, visit our Web site at: www.ucm.com. Or call: **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661) to receive a copy of our Y2k brochure.

Year 2000 Readiness Disclosure



LIHEAP HELPS ENSURE A WARM WINTER FOR THOSE IN NEED.

If you're concerned about your ability to pay your electric bills during the winter heating season, you may qualify for financial assistance from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). You may be eligible to take advantage of this program if you receive assistance from Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or if your household income qualifies. For the telephone number of your nearest LIHEAP agency, call **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661).

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Vol. 6, No. 10

LEARN HOW TO LOWER YOUR UTILITY BILLS...

...by completing ComEd's Free Online Home Energy Audit!

Log on to our Online Home Energy Audit at www.energyaudit.com/comed. One trip can show you how to save money on your home energy bills by becoming more energy efficient.* Complete the audit by answering basic questions about how you use energy. You'll receive a free personalized report that analyzes your total home energy usage and features helpful energy-saving advice. The report also features charts that detail annual operating costs for your appliances, as well as a breakdown of your energy usage throughout the year.

It's easy! To take advantage of ComEd's Online Home Energy Audit, all you need is your 10-digit ComEd Account Number and one gas bill from summer and one from winter (or your best estimates). Then visit:

www.energyaudit.com/comed

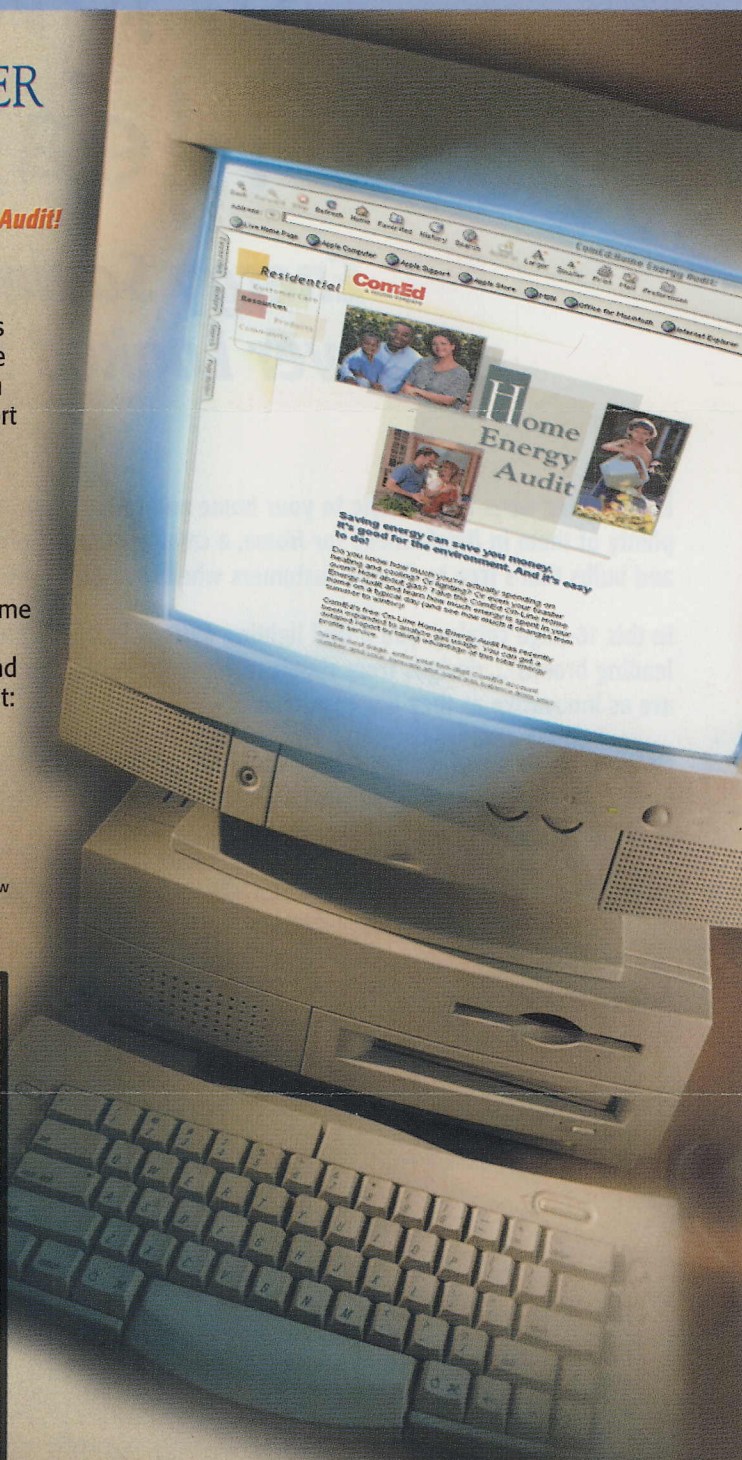
Don't have access to the Web?

Check your local library for Internet availability.

* Savings depend on your current usage patterns and the degree to which you follow audit recommendations.

See what some of our customers have said about ComEd's Online Home Energy Audit:

- ☐ "Thank you for the helpful perspective on our energy use. We plan to put what we learned in action."
- ☐ "... Audit was very useful in determining where most of our energy is spent. I especially liked the advice on reducing costs based on the survey."
- ☐ "Good audit and reporting."



ComEd And ENERGY STAR® Tip Of The Month.

A typical household spends about \$110 a year, (nearly 10% of its annual energy budget) on lighting. Lower those costs by using energy-efficient lighting. Energy-efficient fixtures put out the same amount of light as standard fixtures, but use less watts. Before you buy, look for the ENERGY STAR® label – it means that product meets Federal energy-efficiency and quality guidelines, without sacrificing style or performance. For more information, visit ENERGY STAR® at www.energystar.gov.



Bright Ideas

**Energy Savings Has
Never Looked So Good.**

Looking for ways to add style to your home and reduce your electric bills? You'll find plenty of them in *Bright Ideas for Home*, a catalog of super-efficient light fixtures, lamps and bulbs that's free to ComEd customers when they call: 1-800-230-4701.

In this 16-page catalog, you'll find lighting options from GE, Philips, Panasonic and other leading brands ... designs from classic to contemporary ... for use indoors or out ... and all are as innovative as they are economical.

Using up to 70% less energy than standard incandescent lights, you can save from \$4 - \$21 per year in energy costs.* And you'll continue to save due to their extraordinarily long life – from 6 to 8 years for compact fluorescent bulbs.

So whether you're looking for new light fixtures or to make the ones you have energy efficient, get *Bright Ideas for Home* by calling ComEd today!



ComEd provides *Bright Ideas for Home* to promote energy conservation, and receives no profits from the sale of any of the products within it.

*Estimated savings based on eight hours average use per day, at 10¢ per kWh.

PLANNING AND PLANTING.

If you're planting this fall, please remember these simple guidelines to help assure our crews and equipment have access to your electrical meter and any ground-level transformer (green box) on your property.

1. Allow 10 feet in front of a ground-level transformer (the front is usually where the padlock is located) and 3 feet of clearance around the sides and back.
2. Leave 3 feet of accessible space around your electric meter and electrical pedestal.

By following these guidelines, you'll help assure that your plants will be protected, and that any routine and emergency service will be addressed quickly and efficiently. If you have any questions, please call us at: 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661).



ComEd

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www.ucm.com

THE SOURCE

ComEd

A Unicom Company

Vol. 6, No. 12

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN ROWE



As December passes and the New Year approaches, it is time to enjoy friends, cherish families and give to others as we celebrate the last holiday season of the 20th century. On behalf of everyone at ComEd, I wish you and yours the very best.

December is also a time for making resolutions, a time-honored tradition many of us perform year after year. ComEd is no different in this regard — just as you might, we will make resolutions for starting the year anew. Indeed, we already have set very specific goals designed to provide you with superior electric service. Everything from replacing transformers, repairing cable joints, trimming trees and upgrading wires. We will not rest until we reach the same level of performance improvement as we have in our nuclear business over the last two years.

Yes, many resolutions fade from memory without ever being achieved. But I disagree with those who believe resolutions are meant to be broken — I see them as promises that simply must be kept.

ComEd's resolution is to create a far better company for its customers — with fewer outages of shorter duration and quality service when you call on us for help. As we ring in the New Year and the new millennium, this is our promise to you.

Happy Holidays,

Chairman and CEO

The Best Way To Ring In The New Millennium.

Do something special for New Year's 2000, but **DO NOT** do anything out of the ordinary when it comes to using electricity. Actually, the best thing you can do over the upcoming New Year's Eve weekend is to celebrate just like any other New Year's.

At ComEd we've been ready for Y2k since June 30, 1999. Every possible step has been taken, and all quality reviews and tests have been successfully completed to ensure a smooth transition into the New Year. So remember, the best way you can usher in the new millennium is to celebrate the same way as any other New Year's — happily and safely.

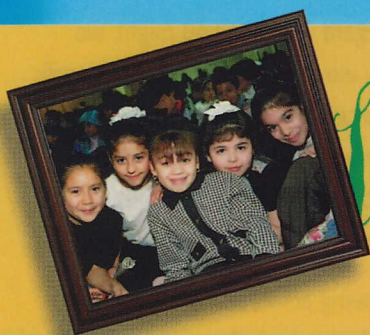
If you'd like additional information about the Year 2000 and Y2k preparations, visit our website at www.ucm.com.

Bringing Joy

Nothing lights up the holiday season like the smiles and laughter of children. For the third consecutive year, thousands of boys and girls throughout Chicagoland will be beaming over the gifts made possible by Navidades ComEd.



With the assistance of The San Jose Group, Navidades ComEd donates toys and games which are distributed to children by over 50 churches in the Chicagoland area during the holiday season.



With a Toy

Navidades ComEd has brightened the holidays of over 10,000 children in its first two years. The program has been so successful, this year we are expanding the concept to reach more of the communities we serve.

Christmas Glory '99

ComEd is proud to sponsor for the third consecutive year, "Christmas Glory...A Musical Celebration," which airs on WFLD FOX 32 on Christmas day at Noon. This three-time Emmy award-winning holiday special features Grammy award winner Gladys Knight, a 300-voice choir and members of the Chicago Sinfionetta. This free concert for 5,000 people will be recorded live at the Apostolic Church of God in the Woodlawn community. The concert and broadcast promise to be a treat for the entire family.

**At ComEd, we wish you and your family the best for this holiday season –
And have a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Millennium!**

ComEd

A Unicom Company

www.ucm.com

THE SOURCE

ComEd

Vol. 7, No. 2

Where were you when the lights stayed on?

Some people got ready for the new millennium by planning big celebrations — others by stocking up on food, fresh water and batteries. At ComEd, our Y2k Team started preparing for this past New Year as early as 1996 to ensure that all of our computers — and your power — would not be affected by the Millennium Bug. As a result of their work, New Year's celebrations went on as usual.

From the very beginning, we understood the impact Y2k could have. Because we committed the people and money needed, worked with regulatory agencies and attacked the problem head on, ComEd achieved Year 2000 ready status a full six months ahead of the rollover. And our Y2k Team is fully prepared for the last Y2k critical date, February 29, as well.

We all rely on electricity for so much in our daily lives — from providing light and powering gas pumps to keeping food cold and guiding planes in the air. Anything less than a 100% effort would not have been enough. Our Y2k Team and the ComEd employees who worked throughout the New Year's weekend did everything in their power to make sure there'd be no surprises to start off the new millennium.

And thanks to their efforts, the New Year got off to a dazzling — and uneventful — beginning.

For the full story, visit: www.ucm.com Year 2000 readiness disclosure

THANK
YOU

Our thanks to all of our customers who continued to use electricity as usual New Year's Eve. By not changing your electric usage habits you helped ensure a smooth transition to 2000.

ENERGY STAR® Tip Of The Month

Plug Up Those Energy Leaks!

Did you know that even when you turn off some appliances, they remain on? Many small appliances — like TVs, VCRs, and CD and DVD players — draw small amounts of power whenever they're plugged in. When you think about how many of these products most people own, and that they're always drawing power — that energy consumption can really add up.

If you want to get more entertainment for your energy dollars, look for the ENERGY STAR® label whenever you shop for electronics. ENERGY STAR®-qualified audio and video equipment uses up to 70% less energy when turned "off." Most ENERGY STAR®-rated electronics cost the same as standard models and, remember, when you use less energy, you don't just save money — you help the environment, too.

Visit www.energystar.gov for more information.



Amazing device pays your electric bills for you!

Imagine paying your electric bill just by pushing a few buttons – a simple task that lets you eliminate the time and expense of mailing a check every month and guarantees your electric bill will be paid on time every time.

Now, with this simple hand-held device, you can: **1)** charge your electric bill directly to your credit card each month, **2)** have your payment automatically deducted from your checking account, and **3)** even enroll in Budget Billing to spread your electric payments evenly throughout the year.

This tool is incredibly user-friendly. In fact, to join our Automatic Bill Payment or Budget Billing programs, all you have to do is:

Call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661), select Option 4, then press "2."

To charge your electric bill to your credit card each month:

Call 1-800-588-9477 and follow the voice prompts (have your 10-digit ComEd account number and your Discover, Visa or MasterCard credit card numbers ready)*.

*A 2.9% teleprocessing fee will apply to all credit transactions.

Fast, convenient and inexpensive, why not take advantage of this simple method to save time and simplify your life? And best of all, when you're not using it to pay your bill, you can use this amazing tool to talk to your friends and family.



Wrapping Up The Holidays – Over 8,000 Toys Lit Up Little Faces.

Navidades ComEd helped make the holidays brighter for 6,900 boys and girls in the Chicagoland area. This was the third year of this program and its biggest success ever – providing more children in more areas with toys for the holidays. This year, we expanded this idea with ComEd's **Share the Joy – Give a Toy** program. An additional 2,000 children received toys at 4 participating schools.



FREE SERVICE MAKES TAX TIME LESS TAXING.

If you make less than \$30,000 per year, The Tax Assistance Program will help you prepare and file your taxes absolutely **FREE!** The average tax refund for those helped is \$1,000!

Staffed with over 1,000 skilled professional volunteers, this non-profit organization is ready to help you get the refund you deserve. Call (312) 409-1555 for the dates and times of this free service.

THE TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM — IT ADDS UP®

The Tax Assistance Program is a partner in Mayor Daley's Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach Initiative. For more information look for the **EITC** insert in this month's bill.



ComEd

www.ucm.com



Join Nature First[®]

And save up to \$40 on your summer electric bills!

If you're a homeowner with central air conditioning, you can save up to \$40 per year on your summer electric bills... and help protect the environment at the same time. Here's how the program works:

- ☐ When you enroll in Nature First, you allow us to cycle your air conditioning compressor off and on during peak periods from June 1 - September 30th – and we'll credit your electric bill each month (whether we cycle or not).
- ☐ Cycling is not automatic – it only occurs during the hottest days of the year, between noon and 8 p.m., when demand is highest (and never on weekends or holidays). Last year, cycling only occurred three times during the summer, and you can always find out if we're cycling just by calling **1-800-986-0070**.
- ☐ Your home stays comfortable during cycling because your A/C fan remains on to circulate the cooled air.

You can choose to cycle for 15 minutes per half hour for a \$5 per month credit for a total of \$20. Or for one continuous 3-hour period for a \$10 per month credit for a total of \$40.

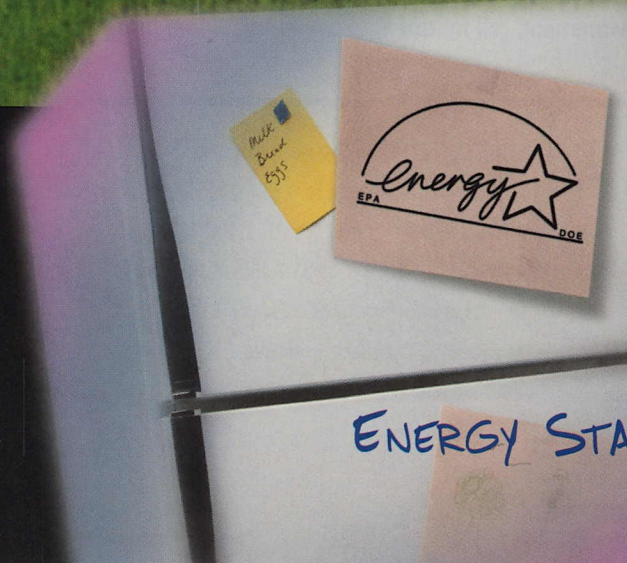
Remember, you'll receive your credit whether we need to cycle your air conditioner or not. So why not join Nature First today – and receive \$20 or \$40 in guaranteed savings? There are 3 easy ways to join:

- 1. Call: 1-800-986-0070**
- 2. Complete and return the enclosed card**
- 3. Enroll through our web site at www.ucm.com/naturefirst**

And if you're already a Nature First participant, you don't need to re-enroll!

Unfortunately, due to geographic paging restrictions, we are currently unable to offer Nature First to customers in Kankakee, Freeport and surrounding communities. We are working to expand our paging capabilities to include all our customers.

Thanks to the over 47,000 participants in Nature First. They received credits on their electric bills and helped save over 657,000 kilowatt-hours of peak electrical energy. They also helped reduce over 184 tons of peak carbon dioxide emissions and 2,169 pounds of peak sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide emissions – all elements that contribute to global warming and acid rain.



Did you know a new ENERGY STAR[®]-qualified refrigerator uses half the energy of a standard ten-year old model? And that it can save you up to \$35 - \$70 per year on your energy bills? Learn more about reducing your electric costs through high-efficiency

ENERGY STAR[®]

Tip Of The Month

ENERGY STAR[®]-labeled products.

Log on to www.energystar.gov today.

TIPS FOR WEATHERING THE STORM.

As much as we love Mother Nature, she can be temperamental. Heavy rains, high winds and lightning all have the potential to disrupt your electrical power. Here's what you can do to minimize trouble and help us quickly restore power to your home:

1. Check with your neighbors — if their power is off too, call us at **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661) to report the outage. If their power is still on, the solution may be as easy as resetting a circuit breaker or replacing a fuse.
2. Turn off electrical appliances and lights to help prevent surges — but leave one light on to indicate when power is restored.
3. Don't open the refrigerator or freezer doors — a well-insulated appliance can keep food cold and fresh if you don't let warm air in.
4. Never go near a downed power line — report it to us immediately, and never enter a flooded basement before having an electrician check it out.

For more information, call us at 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) and ask for a copy of ComEd's FREE *Flooded Basement Tips*.



ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY ROOTS.

Trees are one of Mother Nature's most wonderful gifts. So, to celebrate Earth Month — ComEd is giving 8,500 of them away to area residents absolutely free.

Working through selected schools throughout northern Illinois, students will receive vouchers that can be redeemed for trees at local ComEd offices. The trees are between 5 and 8 feet tall and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. When the trees run out, we'll distribute prairie seed packs while supplies last. The trees available are:

Flowering Crabapple Trees This short, beautiful tree is ideal for planting under power lines.

Shade Trees Taller trees that add elegance and energy-efficiency.

We'll also provide the information homeowners need to locate trees where they'll: offer the greatest energy-savings; require the least maintenance and are safe to plant around power lines; and provide the most enjoyment for their new owners.

If you're interested in all ComEd is doing to promote the environment, call for our *Environmental Annual Report* at **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661).



It's MONEY IN YOUR POCKET.

You, or someone you know, could be eligible!

If you earn less than \$30,000 you may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

The average EITC refund last year was \$1,500!

In Chicago, call 311 for more information or call:

"The Tax Assistance Program — It Adds Up™" 312-409-1555

The Tax Counseling Project (TCP) 1-888-827-8511

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 1-800-829-1040

Or visit www.moneyinmypocket.com

Mayor Daley's EITC Outreach Initiative

ComEd

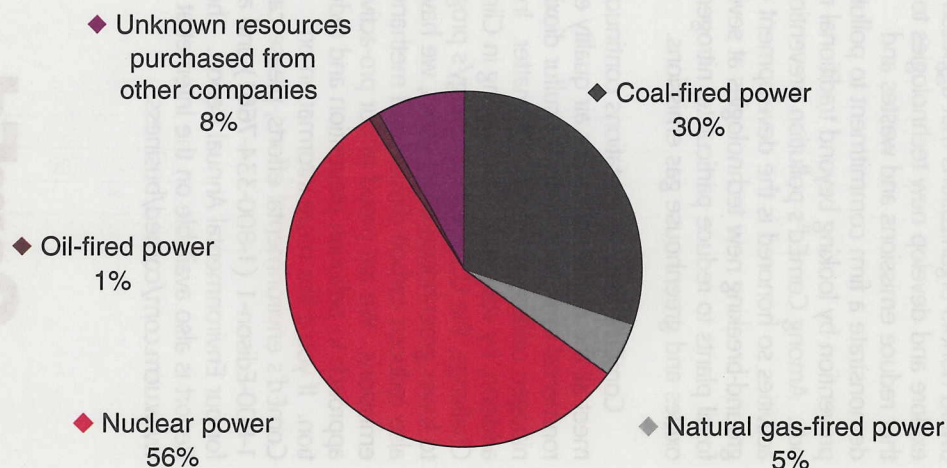
www.ucm.com

ComEd's Environmental Disclosure Statement

The disclosure of this information is required under Section 16-127 of the Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law of 1997 and the rules of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 83 Ill. Adm. Code 421.

Sources of Electricity Supplied for the 12 months ending Dec. 31, 1998	Percentage of Total
Biomass power	0%
Coal-fired power	30%
Hydro power	0%
Natural gas-fired power	5%
Nuclear power	56%
Oil-fired power	1%
Solar power	0%
Wind power	0%
Other resources	0%
Unknown resources purchased from other companies	8%
TOTAL	100%

Sources of Electricity Supplied for the 12 months ending Dec. 31, 1998



AVERAGE AMOUNTS OF EMISSIONS and AMOUNT OF NUCLEAR WASTE per 1000 kilowatt-hours (kWhs) PRODUCED from KNOWN[†] Sources for the 12 months ending Dec. 31, 1998	
Carbon dioxide	700.12 lbs.
Nitrogen oxides	1.80 lbs.
Sulfur dioxide	2.71 lbs.
High-level nuclear waste	0.0033 lbs.
Low-level nuclear waste	0.0003 cubic feet

[†] 8% of the total electricity supplied was purchased from other suppliers and the amounts of emissions and amount of nuclear waste attributable to producing this electricity is not known and is not included in this table.

Additional information on companies selling electrical power in Illinois may be found at the Illinois Commerce Commission's World Wide Web site; www.icc.state.il.us.

The electric industry restructuring law passed in 1997 by the Illinois General Assembly provides many benefits for all customers. As part of this new law, beginning in 1999, electric utilities and suppliers are providing an Environmental Disclosure Statement for the twelve months ending every quarter.

The information on this statement shows the breakdown of the different sources that generated electricity for ComEd customers and the average amounts of emissions and nuclear waste produced, between 01/01/98 and 12/31/98.

For comparison purposes, the following shows the Midwest states* (Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana) electric utilities averages for sources of electricity generation and emissions for 1997*. The majority of ComEd's power generation is from air emission-free or low-emitting sources. Because of that, our emission rates are 60% less than the regional average for carbon dioxide, 75% less for nitrogen oxides, and 80% less for sulfur dioxide.

(Midwest Sources—rounded to the nearest whole percent)	
Coal-fired power	80%
Hydro power	1%
Natural gas-fired power	1%
Nuclear power	18%
Oil-fired power	less than 1%
Renewables (includes geothermal, biomass, wind, solar, thermal and photovoltaics)	less than 1%
(Midwest Emissions—pounds per 1000 kilowatt-hours)	
Carbon dioxide	1,732.00 lbs.
Nitrogen oxides	7.10 lbs.
Sulfur dioxide	14.13 lbs.

* Source — Electric Power Annual, Vol. I and II, July 1998, Energy Information Administration, Office of Coal, Nuclear and Alternate Fuels, USDOE

For the second year in a row, ComEd has received the 12th "Annual Illinois Governor's Pollution Prevention Award" for 1998. The award honors organizations that aggressively explore and develop new technologies to further reduce emissions and wastes and demonstrate a firm commitment to pollution prevention by looking beyond traditional methods. Among ComEd's pollution prevention activities so honored is the development of ground-breaking new technologies at several fossil plants to reduce particulate, nitrogen oxides and greenhouse gas emissions.

ComEd's fossil-fired stations continuously meet all the requirements for air quality environmental emissions limits for sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter. In addition, by voluntarily participating in Climate Challenge, the U.S. Dept. of Energy's program to lower greenhouse-effect gases, we have also reduced carbon dioxide and methane emissions. We are proud of our pro-active approach to pollution prevention and reduction. If you'd like more information on ComEd's environmental efforts, please call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) and ask for our Environmental Annual Report. The Report is also available on the Internet at www.ucm.com/comed/business.

ComEd

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ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

TWELVE
MONTHS
ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 1998

*The information contained in the
Environmental Disclosure Statement is
required by the Electric Service
Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law
of 1997 and the rules of the Illinois
Commerce Commission.*

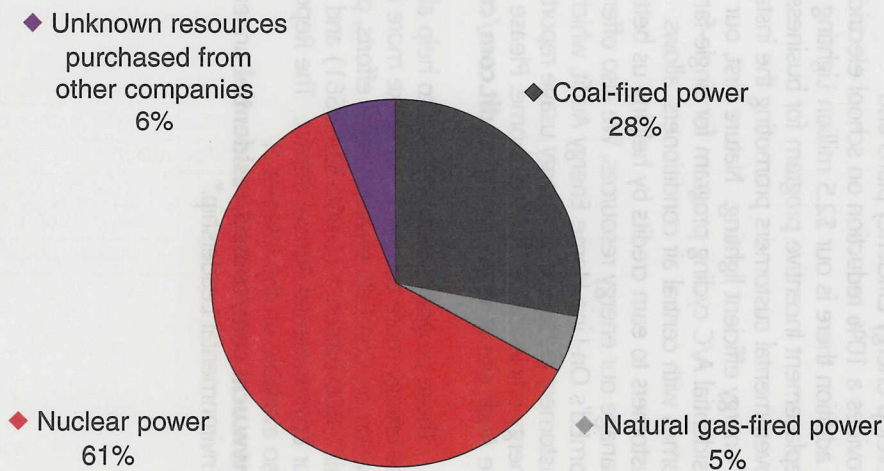
ComEd

ComEd's Environmental Disclosure Statement

The disclosure of this information is required under Section 16-127 of the Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law of 1997 and the rules of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 83 Ill Adm. Code 421.

Sources of Electricity Supplied for the 12 months ending Mar. 31, 1999	Percentage of Total
Biomass power	0%
Coal-fired power	28%
Hydro power	0%
Natural gas-fired power	5%
Nuclear power	61%
Oil-fired power	0%
Solar power	0%
Wind power	0%
Other resources	0%
Unknown resources purchased from other companies	6%
TOTAL	100%

Sources of Electricity Supplied for the 12 months ending Mar. 31, 1999



AVERAGE AMOUNTS OF EMISSIONS and AMOUNT OF NUCLEAR WASTE per 1000 kilowatt-hours (kWhs) PRODUCED from KNOWN [‡] Sources for the 12 months ending Mar. 31, 1999	
Carbon dioxide	659.84 lbs.
Nitrogen oxides	1.69 lbs.
Sulfur dioxide	2.97 lbs.
High-Level nuclear waste	0.0037 lbs.
Low Level nuclear waste	0.0003 cubic feet

[‡] 6% of the total electricity supplied was purchased from other suppliers and the amounts of emissions and amount of nuclear waste attributable to producing this electricity is not known and is not included in this table.

Additional information on companies selling electrical power in Illinois may be found at the Illinois Commerce Commission's World Wide Web site; www.icc.state.il.us.

The electric industry restructuring law passed in 1997 by the Illinois General Assembly provides many benefits for all customers. As part of this new law, beginning this year, electric utilities and suppliers are providing an Environmental Disclosure Statement for the twelve months ending every quarter. This is the second statement issued in 1999.

The information on this statement shows the breakdown of the different sources that generated electricity for ComEd customers and the average amounts of emissions and nuclear waste produced, between 04/01/98 and 03/31/99.

For comparison purposes, the following shows the Midwestern states* (Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana) electric utilities averages for sources of electricity generation and emissions for 1997*. The majority of ComEd's power generation is from air emission-free or low-emitting sources. Because of that, our emission rates are 62% less than the regional average for carbon dioxide, 76% less for nitrogen oxides, and 79% less for sulfur dioxide.

(Midwest Sources—rounded to the nearest whole percent)	
Coal-fired power	80%
Hydro power	1%
Natural gas-fired power	1%
Nuclear power	18%
Oil-fired power	less than 1%
Renewables	less than 1%
(includes geothermal, biomass, wind, solar, thermal and photovoltaics)	
(Midwest Emissions—pounds per 1000 kilowatt-hours)	
Carbon dioxide	1,732.00 lbs.
Nitrogen oxides	7.10 lbs.
Sulfur dioxide	14.13 lbs.

* Source — Electric Power Annual, Vol. I and II, July 1998, Energy Information Administration, Office of Coal, Nuclear and Alternate Fuels, USDOE

ComEd is consistently looking for new ways to encourage energy efficiency among its customers. We support programs such as Student Power 2000, which helps over 1,500 schools develop energy efficiency plans and provides a 10% reduction on school electricity bills. In addition there is our \$2.5 million Lighting Replacement Incentive program for business and governmental customers promoting the installation of energy efficient lighting. Nature First, our residential A/C cycling program for single-family homes with central air conditioners, allows customers to earn credits by helping us better manage our energy resources. We also offer ComEd's On-line Home Energy Audit, which gives customers personalized energy usage reports and energy efficiency tips for their home. Please visit the Audit site at www.energyaudit.com/comed.

These programs were created to help all of us use energy more wisely. If you'd like more information on ComEd's environmental efforts, please call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) and ask for our Environmental Annual Report. The Report is also available on the Internet at www.ucm.com/comed/residential under "Environmental Leadership."



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ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

TWELVE
MONTHS
ENDING
MARCH 31, 1999

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Commerce Commission.*

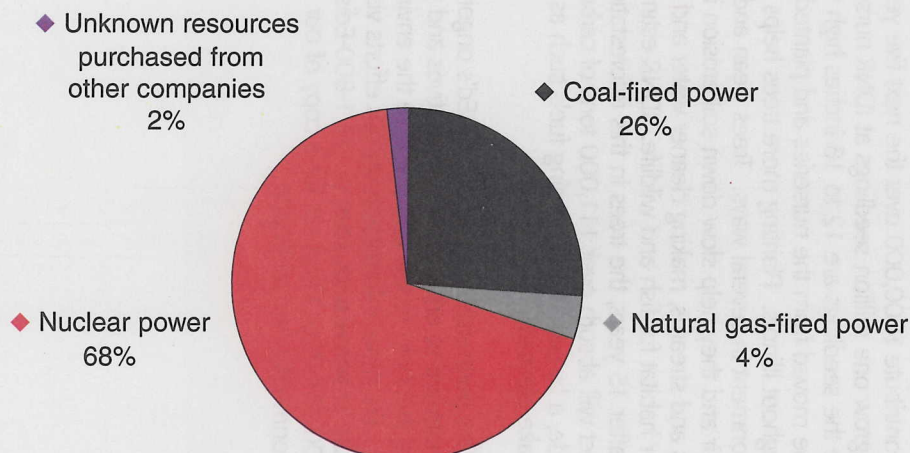


ComEd's Environmental Disclosure Statement

The disclosure of this information is required under Section 16-127 of the Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law of 1997 and the rules of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 83 Ill Adm. Code 421.

Sources of Electricity Supplied for the 12 months ending June 30, 1999	Percentage of Total
Biomass power	0%
Coal-fired power	26%
Hydro power	0%
Natural gas-fired power	4%
Nuclear power	68%
Oil-fired power	0%
Solar power	0%
Wind power	0%
Other resources	0%
Unknown resources purchased from other companies	2%
TOTAL	100%

Sources of Electricity Supplied for the 12 months ending June 30, 1999



AVERAGE AMOUNTS OF EMISSIONS and AMOUNT OF NUCLEAR WASTE per 1000 kilowatt-hours (kWhs) PRODUCED from KNOWN[‡] Sources for the 12 months ending June 30, 1999	
Carbon dioxide	667.45 lbs.
Nitrogen oxides	1.85 lbs.
Sulfur dioxide	2.85 lbs.
High level nuclear waste	0.0043 lbs.
Low level nuclear waste	0.0002 cubic feet

[‡] 2% of the total electricity supplied was purchased from other suppliers and the amounts of emissions and amount of nuclear waste attributable to producing this electricity is not known and is not included in this table.

Additional information on companies selling electrical power in Illinois may be found at the Illinois Commerce Commission's World Wide Web site; www.icc.state.il.us

The electric industry restructuring law passed in 1997 by the Illinois General Assembly provides many benefits for all customers. As part of this new law, beginning this year, electric utilities and suppliers are providing an Environmental Disclosure Statement for the twelve months ending every quarter. This is the third statement issued in 1999.

The information on this statement shows the breakdown of the different sources that generated electricity for ComEd customers and the average amounts of emissions and nuclear waste produced, between 07/01/98 and 06/30/99.

For comparison purposes, the following shows the Midwestern states' (Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana) electric utilities' averages for sources of electricity generation and emissions for 1997*. Sixty-eight percent of ComEd's electricity is generated by nuclear power, and another four percent is generated by natural gas-fired power. Both nuclear power and natural gas-fired power have lower emissions of carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide than coal-fired generation. Because of that, our emission rates are 61% less than the regional average for carbon dioxide, 74% less for nitrogen oxides, and 80% less for sulfur dioxide.

(Midwest Sources—rounded to the nearest whole percent)	
Coal-fired power	80%
Hydro power	1%
Natural gas-fired power	1%
Nuclear power	18%
Oil-fired power	less than 1%
Renewables	less than 1%
(includes geothermal, biomass, wind, solar, thermal and photovoltaics)	

(Midwest Emissions—pounds per 1000 kilowatt-hours)	
Carbon dioxide	1,732.00 lbs.
Nitrogen oxides	7.10 lbs.
Sulfur dioxide	14.10 lbs.

* Source — Electric Power Annual, Vol. I and II, July 1998, Energy Information Administration, Office of Coal, Nuclear and Alternate Fuels, USDOE

One Million Trees by 2003! That's the goal of a recently created partnership between ComEd, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Conservation Foundation. ComEd will contribute \$900,000 over the next five years to help grow one million seedlings at IDNR nurseries. Once the seedlings are 12 to 18 inches high they will be moved from the nurseries and planted throughout Illinois. Planting more trees helps the environment in several ways. Trees clean and cool the air and they help slow down soil erosion into rivers and streams, making cleaner water and a better habitat for fish and wildlife. IDNR estimates that after 15 years, the trees in this reforestation project will absorb over 111,000 tons of carbon dioxide, a by-product of burning fuels such as coal to make electricity.

This partnership is part of ComEd's ongoing commitment to environmental initiatives and programs that help renew and preserve the environment. For more information on our efforts visit our website at www.uicm.com or call 1-800-Edison-1 (1-800-334-7661) and ask for a copy of our Environmental Annual Report.



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ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

TWELVE MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 1999

*The information contained in the
Environmental Disclosure Statement is
required by the Electric Service
Customer Choice and Rate Relief Law
of 1997 and the rules of the Illinois
Commerce Commission.*



CLAIMS PROCESS FOR CERTAIN POWER INTERRUPTIONS OR FLUCTUATIONS

Illinois Public Utilities Act: Section 16-125(e) and (f)

The Illinois Public Utilities Act, Section 16-125(e) and (f), allows customers to receive payment for certain damage resulting from:

- certain continuous power interruptions of four hours or more that affect more than 30,000 customers; and
- certain power surges or other fluctuations that affect more than 30,000 customers.

ComEd may be exempted from liability for damage when the power interruption, power surge, or other fluctuation is caused by:

- weather events or conditions;
- customer tampering;
- civil or international unrest or animals; or
- an individual who is not a ComEd employee, agent or contractor.

CLAIM FORM

To receive a claim form:

- call ComEd at **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661)
- visit a ComEd customer service center or
- visit ComEd's internet site at **www.ucm.com/claims**

CLAIM ASSESSMENT AND PROCESSING

- ComEd will send the customer written confirmation that it received the customer's claim form within two business days of receipt of the claim form.
- ComEd will determine whether the claim arises from a qualifying interruption, surge, or fluctuation.
- ComEd will determine whether it believes any of the exemptions apply.
 - If none of the exemptions applies, the claim will be processed.
 - If one of the exemptions applies, then ComEd may request a waiver from the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). ComEd will inform the customer of the waiver request, and that the processing of the claim will be held until the ICC makes a decision.
 - If the ICC grants ComEd's waiver request, then ComEd will inform the customer that it is not liable for the customer's claim.
 - If the ICC denies ComEd's request, and the decision is not appealed, then ComEd will process the customer's claim.
- ComEd will communicate its proposed resolution of the claim to the customer. Typical claims are resolved within 90 days (excluding any time that claims were held pending an ICC or court decision) after ComEd has received a completed claim form with the required proof of damage.
- The customer may accept ComEd's resolution, or may file an informal/formal complaint with the ICC.

Customers with questions about Section 16-125(e) and (f) or ComEd's claim process may call ComEd at **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661).

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOREGOING IS AND IS INTENDED TO BE, ONLY A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SECTION 16-125(e) AND (f) OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT, AND COMED'S PROCESS FOR ADDRESSING CERTAIN CLAIMS THEREUNDER. NOTHING IN THE FOREGOING DESCRIPTION CREATES OR AFFECTS, OR IS INTENDED TO CREATE OR AFFECT, ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHTS, DUTIES, OR EXCEPTIONS.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, OR EXPERIENCE;
CLAIMS OR DAMAGES OR IS INTENDED TO CREATE OR IMPLY ANY TEST OR EQUIVALENT
FOR ADDRESSING CERTAIN CLAIMS THEREUNDER. NOTHING IN THE FOREGOING DESCRIPTION
OF SECTION 10-132(e) AND (f) OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT AND COMED'S PROCESS
SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS INTENDING TO BE ONLY A GENERAL DESCRIPTION

ComEd is a 100% owned subsidiary of (1-800-234-1001)

ComEd is a 100% owned subsidiary of (1-800-234-1001) and (f) of ComEd's claim process and will

the ICC

- The customer may accept ComEd's resolution of any dispute with ComEd's claim process with the understanding that ComEd's resolution is not binding on the customer and the customer may pursue other remedies.
- ComEd will not accept any claim that is not a claim for damages or compensation for services rendered by ComEd.
- ComEd will not accept any claim that is not a claim for damages or compensation for services rendered by ComEd.

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www.comed.com

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CLAIM ASSIGNMENT AND PROCESSING

- ComEd will determine whether a claim is a claim for damages or compensation for services rendered by ComEd.
- ComEd will determine whether a claim is a claim for damages or compensation for services rendered by ComEd.
- ComEd will determine whether a claim is a claim for damages or compensation for services rendered by ComEd.

CLAIM FORM

- An individual who is not a ComEd employee, agent or contractor.
- An individual who is not a ComEd employee, agent or contractor.
- An individual who is not a ComEd employee, agent or contractor.

IMPORTANT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

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CLAIMS PROCESS FOR CERTAIN POWER DISTRIBUTION OR REGULATIONS

THE SOURCE

ComEd
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Vol. 5, No. 10

MJ

FANS

HERE'S THE STORY!

ComEd offers you
a special value
on the
book of the year!

ComEd customers can be among the first people in the country to purchase *For the Love of the Game: My Story*, Michael Jordan's long-awaited career retrospective. And it will be available to you at well below the suggested retail price!

This magnificent 156-page hardcover book will contain more than 200 photographs taken by the world's greatest photographers, and will include over 20,000 words from Michael himself. It will use state-of-the-

art offset printing technology, promising to set new standards for production values in a mass-produced book.

Scheduled for release on October 27 by Crown Publishing Group, a division of Random House, *For the Love of the Game: My Story* promises to be the most talked-about book this holiday season. Which is why ComEd is so excited to be able to make this pre-publication offer to you.

The suggested retail price will

be \$50, but as a valued ComEd customer you can get it hot off the press for just \$31.00 per copy for a savings of almost 40%! What a perfect holiday gift for the M.J. fans in your life, including yourself!

But don't put it off. Quantities are limited. Take advantage of this special offer and send in the order form below, along with your check or money order, and marvel at the awesome power of the greatest player in the game.

WOULD \$20 HELP YOU SEE THE LIGHT?

Save money and energy
on compact fluorescent bulbs.

There's no better way to light up a room than with the convenience and energy efficiency of compact fluorescent light bulbs. And now you can save up to \$20 by using the rebate coupon enclosed with your bill. When you follow the instructions below, there's no better way to light up a smile!

Compact fluorescent bulbs combine high light output performance with excellent energy efficiency and are the perfect size and brightness for a wide variety of home lighting applications. While compact fluorescent bulbs cost more up front, they last 10 to 13 times longer than incandescent bulbs and can save more than 70% in energy costs.

To help you save even more money, this month ComEd and SYLVANIA are offering you \$5 back *each* on qualifying energy-efficient bulbs (up to four)—for a total savings of up to \$20! These bulbs have the highest lumen rating of any compact fluorescent,

giving you a brighter light than the incandescent bulb you're replacing — you save now when you buy them, and you can save up to 70% in energy over their life span.

Visit one of the participating retailers listed below, and start saving today.

Here's how to get up to \$20 back:

1. Purchase up to four qualifying SYLVANIA Compact Fluorescent Bulbs at participating Menards, Builders Square, Lowes, Sears Hardware and Crafty Beaver Home Centers.
2. Remove UPC symbol(s) from package bottom.
3. Print your name and address on the rebate coupon enclosed with your bill.
4. Circle the SYLVANIA Compact Fluorescent Bulb price(s) on the original cash register receipt(s).
5. Mail this completed coupon, UPC symbol(s) and cash register receipt(s) to the address on the form.

What do you do with your power?™

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HELP FOR LOW- INCOME FAMILIES.

If you're concerned about paying your family's electric bills this coming winter, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may be able to help you with a payment plan.

If you currently receive assistance from Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) or your household income is low enough to qualify, you may be eligible.

For the LIHEAP Agency near you, please call **1-800-Edison-1** (1-800-334-7661).

THE SOURCE

ComEd

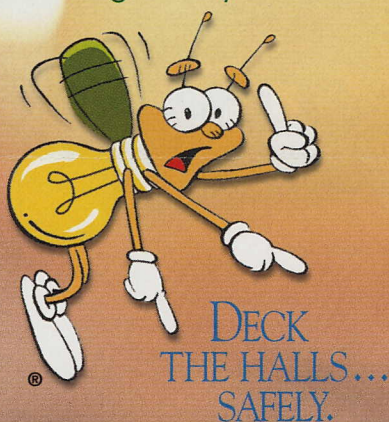
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Vol. 5, No. 11

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

'Tis the season for ComEd's Home Decorating Contest.

If you have designs on dressing up your home in all its festive holiday finery, ComEd invites you to enter our third annual Home Decorating Contest. It's your chance to show off your holiday spirit and compete for some terrific prizes. Read the back for contest instructions and details on how to enter. Then get busy and make your home a star!



To help keep your decorating beautifully safe, review these basic safety tips from ComEd and Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

Before plugging in new or previously used electrical decorations, inspect them for

cracked sockets, frayed, loose or bare wires and loose connections.

Follow all use and care instructions that come with your electrical decorations and keep them with the decorations when you pack them away for next year.

Always unplug light strings or electrical decorations before replacing bulbs or making repairs, and turn them off before leaving home or going to bed.

If you have a real tree, keep it watered and keep candles at a distance. With

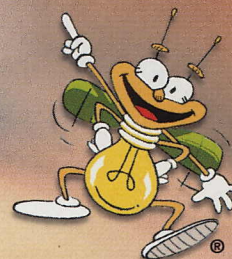
any tree, never place tinsel near plugs or sockets. Don't use electric ornaments or strings if your artificial tree has metallic needles or branch coverings.

Outside, only use decorations clearly marked for outdoor use and never run extension cords through water.

Never nail, staple or close doors or windows on light strings, electrical or extension cords.

You can receive more holiday safety tips by sending a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized envelope to:

UL Holiday Safety Tips, ComEd Offer
Underwriters Laboratories Inc.
Publication Stock
333 Pfingsten Rd.
Northbrook, IL 60062-2096



YULE RULES.

Here's how to enter the Holiday Decorating Contest.



1. Take a color photograph of your decorated home. Photo must be no smaller than 3½" x 5" and no larger than 5" x 7". Videotapes will not be accepted.

2. Send the photograph, along with the entry form below, to:

ComEd Holiday Decorating Contest
P.O. Box 767
Chicago, IL 60690-0767

3. Your entry will be reviewed by a panel of ComEd judges who will select the winners based on creativity and originality of the decorations. There is no entry fee, and all entries must be post-marked by December 31, 1998, and received by January 14, 1999.

4. Grand, first and second place prize winners will be chosen by January 25, 1999. Each winner will receive an autographed copy of the award-winning *The Best Christmas Decorations in Chicagoland*, by Mary Edsey (a \$21.95 value), and the following gift certificates from Sears HomeCentral™

Grand prize:
A \$500 gift certificate
First place:
A \$350 gift certificate
Second place:
A \$250 gift certificate



The Service Side of Sears™

FESTIVE DOINGS.

Come share the special joys of the season with ComEd at these gala holiday events:

Chicago

SKATE ON STATE

November 30 - February 28
State St., between Washington
and Randolph
Free admission, open daily
(weather permitting)

HOLIDAY PARADE

November 28, 12 noon - 2 p.m.
Michigan Ave., between Balbo
and Wacker

Rockford

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

November 29 - January 1
Sinnissippi Park, 1401 N. Second St.
Open daily, 5 - 10:30 p.m.



HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

(Please attach this entry form to your photo. Videotapes are not acceptable.)

Entrant's printed name _____

Home address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

Telephone number _____

Entrant's signature _____

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Restrictions:

- ◆ No purchase is necessary, and winner need not be present to win. Winners will be notified by mail.
- ◆ Prizes are non-transferable, non-assignable and non-refundable.
- ◆ No other prizes will be offered. Prizes may not be redeemed for cash.
- ◆ Each entrant must be a current ComEd customer and a resident of Illinois.
- ◆ Unicom and Unicom subsidiary employees, their advertising companies and their immediate families are ineligible.
- ◆ Winners allow the use of their names and submitted photos in press and publicity events without compensation.
- ◆ All photos become the property of ComEd and cannot be returned.
- ◆ In case of disputes, the decision of the judges will be final.
- ◆ ComEd is not responsible for lost, late or misdirected entries.

THE SOURCE

ComEd

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Vol. 6, No. 1

SAVE TIME! SAVE CHECKS!

Paying your ComEd bill has never been so convenient or so rewarding.

Now, you have a new, more convenient way to pay your ComEd electric bills—by charging them to your Visa, Mastercard or Discover Card. You'll save the time, hassle and expense of writing and mailing a check each month, and also make the most of your credit card company's reward programs. Depending on the card you use, you may earn more frequent flier mileage...receive more free gas...or get larger cash dividends back each year.

Plus, charging your electric bill lets you defer actual payment

until your credit card bill arrives, and comes due. That's a handy way to help plan your budget.

Taking advantage of this new, convenient bill paying option is as easy as 1-2-3.

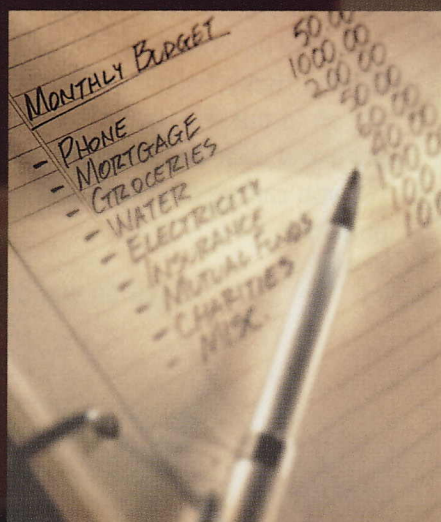
- 1.** Get your current ComEd bill and 10-digit account number.
- 2.** Have your Visa, Mastercard or Discover Card handy.
- 3.** Call 1-800-588-9477.

No checks to write or mail.
Greater credit card rewards.

Extended payment time. There are so many benefits to charging your ComEd bill. So, to take advantage of them, call:

1-800-588-9477.

Please note: A 2.9% teleprocessing fee will apply to all credit transactions.



Contest Brings Out Incredible Displays Of Holiday Spirit

Thanks to all who entered ComEd's Home Decorating Contest. It will be hard to select just three winners from all the original, impressive entries, but our judges will make the tough decision on January 25th! So keep your fingers crossed until then...and look for the three winning entries in an upcoming issue of *The Source*.

AUDIT YOUR GAS USAGE, TOO.

With ComEd's On-Line Home Energy Audit.

Now, ComEd's free On-line Home Energy Audit has been expanded to analyze gas usage. You can get a detailed report on your total home energy use—from the electricity you use to run a toaster, television or VCR to the gas you use to heat your home and cook your dinner.

To take advantage of ComEd's On-line Home Energy Audit, just log on to our residential home page and click on "Resources." (Or you can go directly to the audit via:

www.energyaudit.com/comed.)

You need to have your ComEd account number and summer and winter gas bills handy. Then answer a few simple questions about your gas and electric usage and, in a matter of seconds, you'll receive a free, personalized, detailed report on your total energy usage—plus helpful hints to save three precious resources—electric power, natural gas and your money.

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www.ucm.com

ComEd POWER CREW UPDATE

The ComEd Power Crew went to five area hospitals last month and passed out over 600 toys and trading cards. Andy Heck, Barry Minter, John Paxson, Mickey Morandini, C. J. Brown and John Snyder visited with children confined to hospital beds over the holidays and brought smiles and video games to make the season a little brighter. ComEd and the Power Crew would like to thank the hospitals for letting us visit and McDonald's Corporation and Nintendo of America, Inc. for donating the toys.



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Nintendo and the "N" Sports logo are trademarks of Nintendo of America, Inc.

ComEd is a registered trademark